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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 61

Section 1

September 11, 1931.

## COTTON RELIEF PROPOSALS

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Austin says: "The Texas Capitol was a battleground yesterday for two factions seeking cotton relief legislation, to which the entire South looked for a precedent. One group resented the radio 'invasion' of Texas by Governor Huey P. Long of Louisiana in the interest of his plan to prohibit cotton planting in 1932. The other was allied with the Louisiana Governor. In the midst of the fray was the Texas Legislature, meeting to attempt cotton relief by law. Senate proponents of cotton acreage reduction agreed yesterday on a control bill that would restrict cotton planting in 1932 and 1933 to one-third of the cultivated area. Planting any land to cotton in successive years would be prohibited...."

An Atlanta dispatch to-day says: "Plans for a South-wide conference of commissioners of agriculture and marketing experts to devise substitute markets and crops in the event of a general cotton holiday were being formulated at Atlanta yesterday, A. D. Jones, head of the Georgia bureau of markets, announced. The conference, he said, would be for the purpose of making 'gentlemen's agreements' among the representatives of the cotton-growing States to specialize in increasing crops already largely confined to the individual States so as not to glut the market with any one type of product...."

## TAX REVISION PLANS

Two plans were advocated on Capitol Hill yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Senator David A. Reed of Pennsylvania, an influential member of the Senate finance committee, urged a general sales tax of one-half of 1 per cent on all commodities sold through retail stores and agencies....Senator Reed estimated that his plan would raise \$2,000,000,000 a year, nearly half of the annual budget. The Treasury deficit at the end of this fiscal year is expected to be somewhere around \$1,500,000,000. He also advocated a higher inheritance tax, and repeal of the capital gains and lower provision in the income tax law.

"Representative Isaac Bacharach of New Jersey, a member of the House ways and means committee, advocated a sales tax only on 'luxuries and nonessentials,' with tobacco excluded. In addition, however, he would place a higher tax on incomes from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000; increase the Federal estate tax and supplement it with a gift tax to prevent evasion by owners of large estates...."

## THE BRITISH BUDGET

A London dispatch to-day says: "Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, searched the pockets of his countrymen yesterday, taxing rich and poor alike with \$202,500,000 in new levies to balance the 1931-1932 budget and restore world confidence in British finance. His emergency budget, presented to the House of Commons, bristled with drastic assessments. The income tax standard rate, for instance, was boosted by sixpence (12 cents)—which means that every payer of the tax must turn one-fourth of his income over to the government. The Commons adjourned after agreeing to the tax increase resolutions without a vote, and next Tuesday was set for the debate on the budget. The acceptance of the budget resolutions on the first night is according to custom. ...."





## Section 2

Australian  
Back-to-  
Land Move-  
ment

An editorial in The Miami Herald for September 5 says: "Australia has started a back-to-the-land movement as a result of the present business depression and expects to derive some advantages from what in most countries is an unalloyed misfortune. A recent report of the government statistician said that 49½ per cent of the population of Australia is in or near the large cities. This is a bad condition for a country that is essentially a primary-producing region and a warning was issued that steps should be taken to stop it. About the same time a number of men who had been working along the water fronts of the cities but had been idle for some time asked for aid. They were given a patch of land to cultivate and a settlement known as Hope Farm was established. Money to finance the farm for a time was advanced by the Unemployment Relief Council and so far the experiment has made a successful start. Farmers in other parts of the world are complaining but they are at least eating and that is an advantage. Agriculturists who diversify their activities are an independent body of citizens. With livestock, poultry, fruit, vegetables and grain at hand they are in greater danger from dyspepsia than from hunger."

Calendar  
Reform

An editorial in The Milwaukee Journal for September 6 says: "The American Association for the Advancement of Science is discouraged over its inability to change the world's calendar. The case for the thirteen months' plan, with each month containing the same number of days and the day of the month falling inevitably on the same day of the week, has been amply proved and demonstrated. Yet it causes scarcely a ripple of popular interest. Great mercantile houses have adopted it, in order to get accurate comparisons, month by month, of profit, sales and the like. The man on the street remains satisfied with the calendar as it is. Systems that have grown up and have become a part of our way of living are hard to change. A better way may be offered, but it is not easy to alter the habits of a hundred million or a thousand million people. We'd rather struggle with feet and pounds than go to the simpler metric system. We can remember which months have 30 days and which 31 easier than we can reform our way of figuring....The calendar change, we think, is coming, and at no far distant time. It is so much simpler, more satisfactory, easier to use. Its adoption by business for bookkeeping purposes is a long step forward. In the end the people of every walk of life will want it, too, and will see no hardship in the change."

Cotton Pro-  
duction

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 5 says: "The United States may eventually have to produce wheat on the basis of a domestic demand. The South, however, may quickly recover its dominance in the production of cotton. It is true that cotton is being grown in many countries of the world and that there are vast areas suitable for the production of the staple that is not yet in cultivation, but no place has yet been discovered that can produce better cotton than America. The South is going to dominate the cotton markets of the world by producing quality staple and marketing it on a quality basis. It can be done, and with our years of experience in the business, and our advantage in the knowledge and use of labor-saving machinery, no country on earth can undersell us....With marginal and sub-marginal lands out



of cotton, acreage will be reduced and American cotton will again be in demand at a premium over the general run of foreign growth. Putting livestock back on southern cotton farms and the production of pasture grasses and other feedstuffs is a logical way of reducing cotton acreage and increasing the quality of cotton produced. If the South continues to lose prestige as a producer of cotton, it will be the fault of cotton farmers, and not because better cotton can be produced elsewhere."

Date Industry

Earl D. Stewart, assistant editor of Food Industries, writing on "Growing and Packing Dates in California and Arizona" in the September issue of that journal, says: "Nearly three million pounds of dates grown in California and Arizona appeared on the markets following the 1930 harvest. Compared with our imports of 58,841,000 lbs. of this fruit in 1928, 3,000,000 lbs. does not seem very much; but the majority of the date palms in the United States are not yet in commercial bearing. The 1930 crop came from about 20 per cent of the palms now planted, and even if the acreage in dates is not extended, which seems unlikely, in ten years or so there will be ten to fifteen million pounds of domestic dates available annually to consumers and to the food industries using them in confectionery and baked goods. At present, the only areas where date-palm culture is practiced to any extent are the Coachella Valley, in Riverside County, California, which has about 90 per cent of all the date palms in the United States; the Imperial Valley, also in California; and the Salt River Valley, of Arizona. About ten varieties of dates are grown in these regions. One variety, Deglet Noor, that originated in Algeria and is the chief variety grown in northern Africa, makes up better than 80 per cent of the plantings and furnishes about 75 per cent of the United States crop....Date growing is an expensive business. Reliable estimates call for an investment of \$4,000 to \$5,000 an acre to bring a garden into commercial bearing. Once established, however, a garden can be very profitable. The limited areas in which dates can be grown make it unlikely that the supply of domestic dates will ever entirely satisfy our commercial consumption of this fruit. On the other hand, the high quality and undoubted cleanliness of American-grown dates should appeal to the consumer of the fruit who eats it as such, as well as to the manufacturing confectioner and baker who may use dates as an ingredient in candy or cookies."

Rural Physicians

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for August 15 says: "In the province of Saskatchewan, Canada, twenty rural communities levy taxes ranging from seven to ten dollars per family to engage the services of full time physicians. Reports indicate that both the physicians and communities regard the system favorably. Opposition to the plan comes largely from nonresident land owners and from private physicians whose practices are disturbed. These rural communities have an average population of 1,800 persons. The physicians are employed full time. The scope of their work is that of general practice. Major operations are not included, nor are many types of minor surgery. Office calls are free to those who pay taxes. Small charges are made for visits in case of illness. The physicians act as public health officers of their communities. No community adopting the plan has discontinued it. Such a system would solve the problem of retaining physicians in some rural districts of Michigan."





Wages and  
Unemploy-  
ment

An editorial in Barron's for August 24 says: "Most people agree that having in mind the large volume of credit--that is debt--outstanding in the world, a rise in the commodity price level and in general property values is desirable, and they fear that without this there is danger to the credit structure as a whole....Nevertheless, this particular problem apart, there are those in Germany and Great Britain who look to a prolonged period of low commodity prices as giving them the opportunity that they desire to occupy world markets with their industrial products. They believe that such a period is before us, to last for a considerable time, and that every effort to cut costs should be made. This, of course, takes in the matter of wages. It is clear that unless a marked improvement comes in commodity prices this matter is destined to take the front of the economic stage, not only in Britain and in Germany but also in the United States--and this whether we like it or not....The question of credit apart, it is in the dislocation of the price structure that the immediate difficulty lies, rather than in the level as a whole. It is to this that unemployment is due, other than that unemployment which is called 'technological,' and it is unemployment that most of all calls for remedy."

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Section 3Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in California Cultivator for September 5 says: Commenting on the various suggestions being offered to relieve the agricultural situation and particularly that advising a reduction in production costs by means of increased per acre yields, Secretary Hyde says: 'The answer to farm distress caused by overproduction is not more production...The only answer to overproduction is less production, balancing our crops against market demands, producing only such an amount as we can sell at a price which covers cost of production plus a profit.' Considering the agricultural industry of the United States as a whole, the Secretary of Agriculture is no doubt right and we fully agree with him in his statement that the only remedy is in balancing our crops against market demands. We do think, however, that there are thousands of farmers who, by better cultural practices, the use of labor saving machinery and more fertilizer, could so increase their per acre production as to bring their unit cost below the present low selling price and we hold that help in this direction is still just as important and should be considered just as much a part of our economic program as when there was no overproduction...."

1. The first part of the report  
describes the general situation  
of the country and the  
state of the economy.  
It also mentions the  
state of the army and  
the navy.

2. The second part of the report  
describes the state of the  
economy and the  
state of the army and  
the navy.



# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Sept. 10.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$10.15; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.35 to \$6.50; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.90 to \$6.35; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.85 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.50 to \$7.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$5.85.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 68  $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢ to 73  $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 48¢ to 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 42¢ to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 49 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ to 49 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 39¢ to 40¢; Kansas City 43¢ to 44¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 45¢ to 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 44¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 20¢ to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 22  $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢ to 23  $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 22¢; Kansas City 21¢ to 24¢.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 95¢-\$1.30 per 100 pounds in city markets; 85¢-90¢ f.o.b. northern and central points. Long Island sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.05 in New York City; 85¢ f.o.b. Riverhead. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 85¢-\$1 carlot sales in Chicago; 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. Massachusetts sacked yellow onions brought \$2-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in the East; \$1.75-\$1.90 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows \$1-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. New York Domestic Round type cabbage \$13-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$9-\$10 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Round type \$30 in St. Louis. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.90-\$2.25 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly \$1.50 f.o.b. Eastern Shore. Tennessee Nancy Halls 90¢-\$1 per bushel basket in the Middle West. Eastern Wealthy apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, 80¢-90¢ per bushel basket in New York City; McIntosh \$1-\$1.50 and Wealthys 65¢ f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 16 points to 6.04¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.43¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 17 points to 6.67¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 6.68¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32¢; 91 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



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Vol. XLII, No. 62

Section 1

September 12, 1931.

## FARM BOARD WHEAT TO GERMANY

The Federal Farm Board yesterday sold 7,500,000 bushels of its surplus wheat to Germany, and in consummating the deal specified that American ships be given preference in the hauling of 50 per cent of the tonnage, according to the press to-day. The deal with Germany is the third the Farm Board has made, the others being with Brazil and China. The report says: "The wheat was sold to the Deutsche Getreide Handelsgesellschaft, of Berlin, a semiofficial organization corresponding somewhat to the Federal Farm Board. The purchase price was in accordance with the market quotations as of yesterday. The German government guarantees payment. Delivery is to be made at the average rate of 833,333 bushels per month with provisions for the increase of the monthly quota if desired and for added storage charges after November 15...."

## COTTON RELIEF PLANS

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day says: "Texas legislators last night veered from the plan of Governor Long of Louisiana for cotton prohibition in 1932. The House of Representatives voted not to instruct its special committee to report back on two bills, one embodying Governor Long's prohibition plan and the other to provide for cotton acreage reduction. It was understood the committee had agreed tentatively on the bill of Representative J. J. Olsen to restrict cotton planting in 1932 to one-third of the tillable land. The vote gave the committee authority to recommend to the House whatever bill it chose from the many proposals. It has until 9 a.m. Monday to make its report...."

## IOWA FARMERS HOLD CORN

A Des Moines dispatch to-day says: "Representatives from the corn lands of Iowa yesterday voted to hold their 1931 crop off the market until the price has reached 60 cents a bushel. To keep from starving while their plan is put into effect, the delegation decided to resort to a State warehousing act under which the farmers can borrow money on their crop in storage...."

## GIFFORD APPOINTS RELIEF COMMITTEE

Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War in the Wilson Cabinet, was named on a committee of eighteen members, announced September 10, which will act as the committee on administration of relief within the President's organization on unemployment relief, headed by Walter S. Gifford. This committee is the last of three which Mr. Gifford announced he would appoint as advisory bodies to his organization. The other committees set up by the President's organization included a committee on plans and suggestions, of which Harry A. Wheeler of Chicago is chairman, and a committee on mobilization of resources, headed by Owen D. Young. (Press, Sept. 11.)

## CONVENTION OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTS

The forty-seventh annual convention of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists will be held at Washington, D.C., November 2-4, 1931.





## Section 2

Community  
Farm Ex-  
periment

An editorial in The Miami Herald for September 5 says: "A novel experiment in the form of an entirely self-supporting community has been established in Texas, according to The Texas Weekly, a magazine devoted to the interests of that State. Kristenstad, the name of the community, is located in Johnson and Hood Counties, and is composed of 6,000 acres of high and dry land, almost an island, and is partially surrounded by the Brazos River. Founded in 1928 by John B. Christensen, the community shows no signs of suffering from depression, either local or national. Settlers in this unique place are carefully examined as to their character and ability, and are allowed to purchase any amount of land at a nominal price, which is the same for one and all, regardless of the amount purchased, and are allowed 20 years in which to pay for it. No down payment is required for the land, and no person is allowed to buy more than he can use. Settlers are taught that they should not produce anything for sale until they have enough for their own consumption, and when they have enough for themselves, they may begin to produce a surplus for marketing....The community now has a farm paper with a circulation of 25,000, a model printing plant, and will soon have a dairy and creamery, a grist mill to turn the surplus wheat, barley, oats and the like into feed and flour, lime kilns to furnish lime for building purposes, as limestone is plentiful along the river, and a new school building. The latter which will open for the first time this fall. There are three businesses for carrying on the commercial affairs of the community, one dealing with the marketing of produce and industrial products, one with meat and dairy products, and one a loan company to finance settlers. Any member of the community may purchase stock in these concerns, and at the present time, over two-thirds of the members have such stock...."

Louisiana  
Agricul-  
ture

Fred W. Ellsworth, vice president, Hibernia Bank & Trust Co., New Orleans, writing on "Louisiana Farm Conditions" in Manufacturers Record for September 10, says: "Conditions in the agricultural communities of Louisiana show improvement over conditions in 1930. Because of the application of sound principles of economics, and through conservation of foodstuffs and by profiting from the experiences of the past 18 months, our agricultural population, which means the major portion of our people, will enjoy during the coming 12 months uniformly better conditions than were experienced last year....Can manufacturers report that they are furnishing to the farmers two and a half times as many containers for canning purposes as in any previous year. Farmers in those sections which last year suffered severely from the drought are this year canning their surplus food, with the result that while most of them will have limited cash they will at least have enough to eat and to spare. The cotton farmers have learned by experience that they should raise their own foodstuffs, and this feature during the coming winter will prove decidedly advantageous, as compared with conditions last year....In the past two years, with agricultural and industrial conditions in many States reflected in the large number of bank failures, Louisiana has been singularly fortunate, for only a few Louisiana banks have closed their doors--six, to be exact--and three of these have since reopened. Moreover, according to our individual experience, only 10





per cent of our correspondent banks in Louisiana are finding it necessary to borrow money, and their credit balances in New Orleans are approximately 13 per cent greater than at this time last year."

Texas Swine  
Industry

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for August 29 says: "Texas, at one time, held high rank among States in the production of market hogs. To-day there is one brood sow to every three farms. Low and fluctuating markets, often ascribed as the cause of the decline of the swine industry in the State, does not constitute the real cause. The loss of pigs from worms and the periodic outbreak of cholera have done more to discourage the industry than unsatisfactory markets. The Texas swine industry is unprotected. X

X There are no laws which prevent the shipping of hogs from cholera districts into any other county in the State. Truck loads are often distributed in areas free from cholera, and the disease sweeps through entire sections....If Texas is ever to get back into the swine industry on a profitable basis, we must rid ourselves of the constant fear of hog cholera...."

Wheat and  
Cotton  
Consump-  
tion

A Chicago dispatch to the press of September 11 says: "The experiment of the William Wrigley Company in purchasing wheat in Canada and cotton in the South with part of the receipts from gum sales has proved so satisfactory that it will be continued until December 1, as planned, and probably thereafter. William Wrigley, jr., said the indirect business benefits counterbalanced temporary book losses, and that eventually there might even be a small profit from wheat and cotton. Recently the Cudahy Packing Company started a similar campaign in the South, while International Harvester has a plan for accepting farm products in exchange for farm machinery. The Wrigley purchases of cotton began April 1, and of wheat last December...."

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Vol. XLII, No. 63

Section 1

September 14, 1931.

## SOUTHERN COTTON PLANS

The South Carolina Legislature will convene in extraordinary session to-day to enact cotton acreage legislation, while Texas legislators, already at work on the problem, were expected to begin a debate to determine what form their agricultural relief laws will take. Governor Blackwood of South Carolina has announced his approval of the no cotton in 1932 plan, sponsored by Governor Long of Louisiana, and already enacted into law in that State. In Georgia, Eugene Talmadge, commissioner of agriculture, announced that he would call a mass meeting of Georgia farmers in Atlanta for Wednesday to demand a special session of the Legislature to pass cotton relief laws. (Press, Sept. 14.)

## RAIL RATES

An increase of railroad freight rates by fixed, arbitrary amounts, rather than by the addition of 15 per cent to present rates as requested by the railroads in a petition to the Interstate Commerce Commission, was urged by the Merchants' Association of New York, the Boston Chamber of Commerce and the New England Traffic League in a brief filed with the commission on Saturday, according to announcement of the petitioners yesterday. Objection to the increase of 15 per cent is based on the argument that it would disrupt rate relationships among competing communities to the disadvantage of New York and the Atlantic seaboard territory. The substitute plan by which all communities would be taxed the same amount on all freight in order to furnish the railroads with the additional income which they assert they must have is similar to that advanced last month at a hearing of the commission at Portland, Me., by William H. Chandler, traffic manager of the Merchants' Association of New York. (N.Y. Times, Sept. 14.)

## GIFFORD'S RELIEF ORGANIZATION

Walter S. Gifford completed his national relief organization yesterday, as governors, mayors and representatives of labor and industry prepared for the American Legion's unemployment conference at Washington to-day, according to the press. The report says: "Gifford announced the appointment of a fourth major committee to cooperate with national groups and associations, headed by Eliot Wadsworth, of Boston, former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. John Barton Payne, chairman of the Red Cross; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Silas H. Strawn, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; William Allen White, of Emporia, Kans., and Col. Arthur Woods, former chairman of President Hoover's unemployment committee, were selected to serve with Mr. Wadsworth...."

## PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

More than 300 delegates representing governments, Chambers of Commerce and other trade bodies have accepted invitations to the Fourth Pan-American Commercial Conference to be held at Washington from October 5 to 12, it was announced September 13, according to the press to-day. The conference will be divided into two main groups, one to consider trade barriers, trade promotion and transportation, while the other will take up consular, customs, finance and judicial questions.

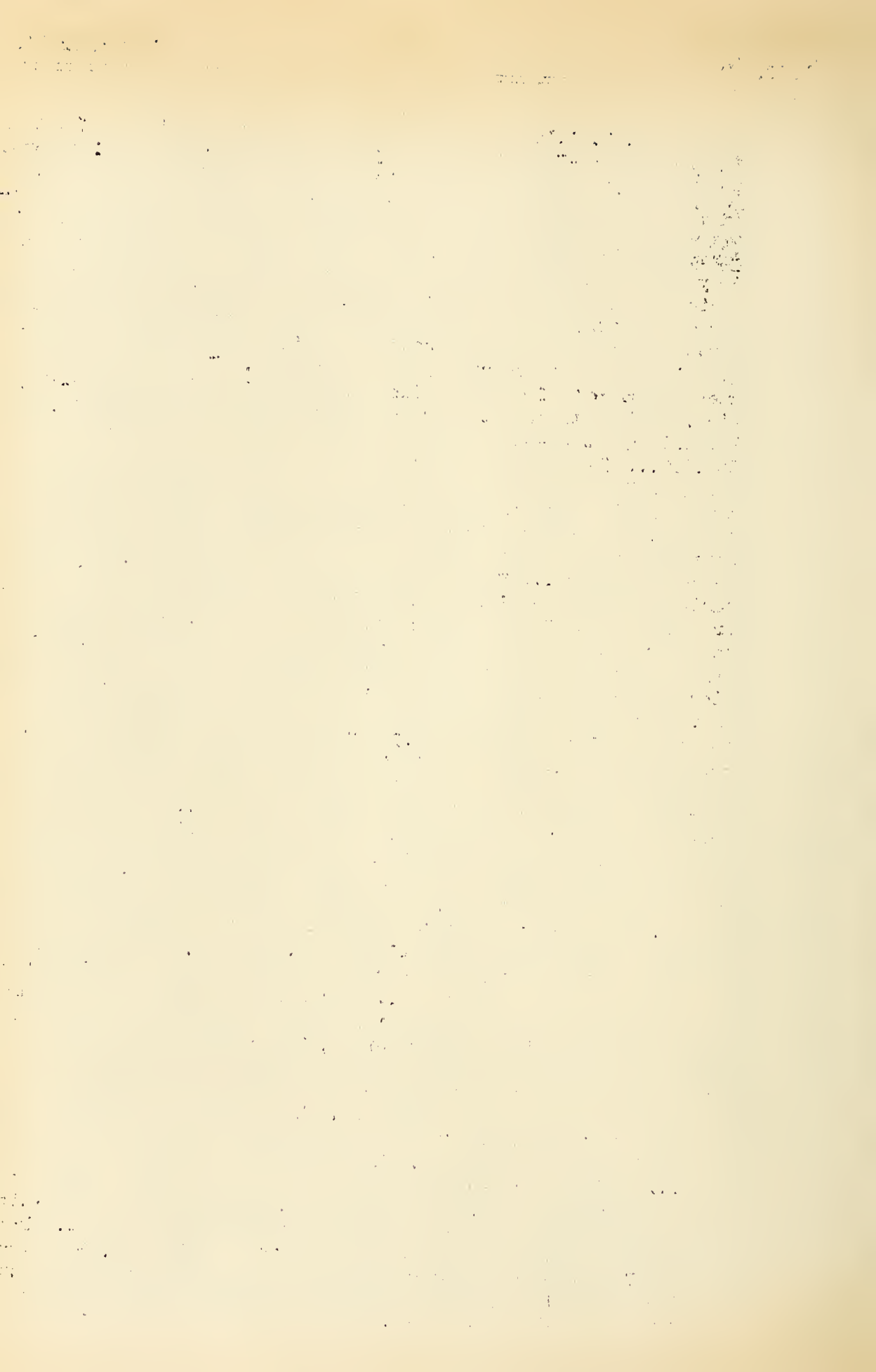




## Section 2

Europe and  
Wheat

E. V. Wilcox, writing under the title, "Peddling Wheat in Europe; A Close-Up of Prospects There for Our Grain," in *The Country Gentleman* for September, says: "On a trip through Europe in which I visited each of her twenty-seven countries I tried to get a first-hand notion of how much Europe could increase her wheat production. Most European politicians think it an urgent matter to raise more wheat. They have been arguing that way in Greece since the golden age of Pericles. If it takes Greece twenty-four centuries to fail to induce her olive orchardists to turn to wheat, how long will be required for Europe to boost her wheat production 560,000,000 bushels? That's the quantity of wheat imported yearly by Europe. Where can this extra wheat be grown? The Danube Basin is Europe's chief surplus-wheat region. Before the war the average yearly export from Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Jugo-Slavia was 109,000,000 bushels. Now it's only 40,000,000....The agrarian revolution which upset nearly all the governments of Eastern Europe was partly due to the peasant's desire to raise something for himself to eat rather than grow wheat for the landlord to sell. The natural trend is away from wheat toward livestock and mixed farming. Can the current be forced to flow the other way by government edict....What good will it do the German farmer to erect a tariff barricade of \$1.62 a bushel and then kick holes in it to let in free wheat from Rumania? Just recently the Germans have been arguing that since their wheat stocks were very low it wouldn't inflict any injury on their farmers to let in cheap wheat and give the city population a well-earned respite from the steady diet of rye bread. That's where the urban consumer comes in. He is the fellow who eats all the wheat which Europe imports...The United Kingdom must import food to the tune of two and a quarter billion dollars a year. Over 90 per cent of her population is urban. A million tons of grain are used annually by British poultrymen. They want cheap grain....The only reasonable conclusion to draw from all this welter of experiments and worries is that at best Europe will continue to be short of wheat by a half billion bushels or more a year. Who will supply this deficit? Five nations raise their hands--Canada, United States, Argentina, Australia and Russia. That assures a lively scrimmage for the business. Who can raise wheat at the least cost? Brains, climate, soil productivity, farm management, machinery, transportation facilities and satisfactory credit will have a lot to do with it....How much wheat Russia will dump next fall no one can say. International conferences seem to be quite futile. Recent ones held in Rome, Bucharest, Prague, Geneva and London came to nothing. Every move is suspected and countered or checkmated.... Australia is financially embarrassed and won't agree to forgo a possible source of income from wheat export. With thousands of Canadian farmers it's wheat or nothing. Argentina is grasping at anything to recoup her losses from low wool prices. Russia won't bind herself to any proposition...Do changes in dietary habits give hope for wheat? Wheat consumption varies greatly. A Japanese eats only thirty pounds of white flour a year, as contrasted with the Canadian's 600-pound record. French, Belgians and British are fond of wheat bread. Germans, Scandinavians and the Baltic peoples eat more rye than wheat. Asia, Africa and the tropics depend little or none on wheat. They were rapidly adding it to their ration till wheat prices skyrocketed during the war, when they





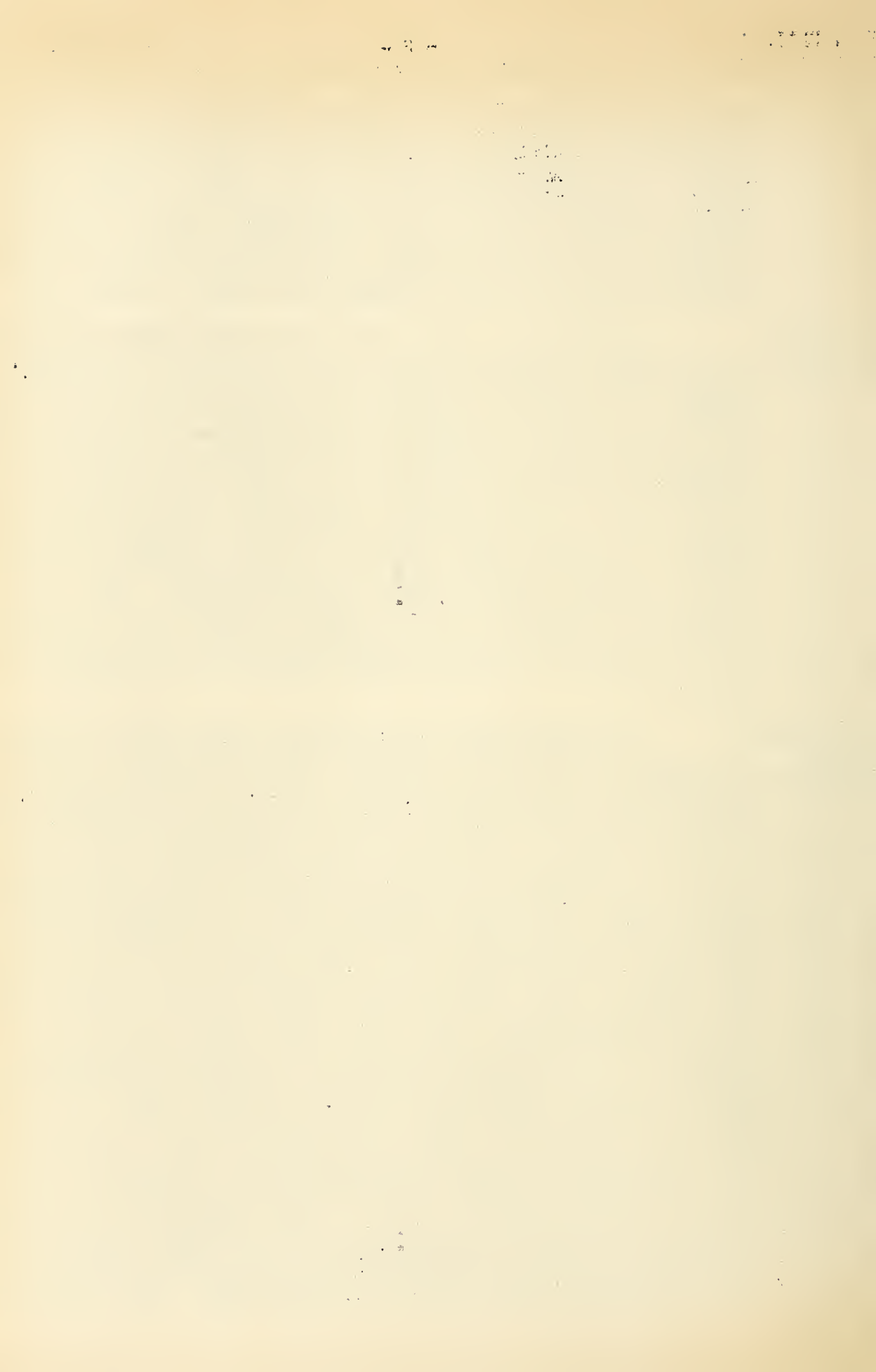
promptly fell back on rice and other old stand-bys. Several European governments are urging greater admixtures of barley and rye with wheat flour and are requiring that wheat flour be 60 to 90 per cent of home origin. In 1875 Americans had to have six bushels of wheat per person. Now we get along with four....But is our relative position in the game greatly changed by these recent developments? Will it be any easier for a Canadian than for an American to put forty-cent wheat over a \$1.62 tariff wall into Germany, when if it gets in at all it must be mixed with four times its weight of German wheat before it may be used?

#### Game Con- servation

An editorial in Outdoor Life for October says: "....In America we have indeed destroyed blindly; but we have come to our senses, and are at last realizing that wild life once blotted out can never be revived, at least for the enjoyment of the common people. We are determined to counteract the deadening standardization of machine civilization by perpetuating opportunities for outdoor recreation for all classes. That effort is unique in the history of the world....So much lies ahead if we are to succeed. Larger wilderness areas must be set aside. Game law enforcement must be stricter. The greatest of game animals, like bears, moose, elk, must be better guarded by State departments. The farmer must be induced to propagate game birds. Game breeding and wild-life management must become a science....When we have achieved such measures there will still be more to do. But I think it is worth pointing out again that Twentieth Century Wild Life Conservation in America is a movement without parallel in the history of the world...."

#### Poultry and Egg Co- operatives

The Federal Farm Board September 10 made public a report on the cooperative associations handling poultry and eggs in twelve northeastern States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and West Virginia. A survey of twelve northeastern States shows that poultry producers in that region marketed \$4,273,503 worth of poultry and poultry products through twenty cooperative marketing associations in 1929. The products were delivered to the associations by 2,935 producer members. The survey was made jointly by the Federal Farm Board, State agricultural colleges, experiment stations, extension forces, and departments of agriculture in the northeastern States. Sixteen associations marketed eggs, three marketed chickens, and two marketed ducks. The cooperative sales of eggs, ducks, and chickens in the States surveyed totaled \$4,373,503. Cash farm income data on poultry and poultry products for the northeastern States are available for chickens and eggs only, 71 per cent coming from eggs. Pennsylvania and New York led in the commercial production of eggs and chickens. These two States derived 31.5 and 26.5 per cent, respectively, of the total cash farm income from eggs in the northeastern States and 30.2 and 19.7 per cent of the income from chickens sold cooperatively and otherwise. New Jersey ranked third with 9.5 per cent of the cash farm income from eggs and 11.9 per cent from chickens. Three of the northeastern States, West Virginia, New Jersey and Massachusetts, sold chickens cooperatively. Six States, New Jersey, Connecticut, West Virginia, New Hampshire, New York and Maryland, sold eggs through cooperatives. Two cooperative



associations sold ducks for producers in New York and Massachusetts, and their sales amounted to \$1,505,588, almost three-fourths of which represented sales of producers in the Long Island area of New York.

**School Attendance** The Census Bureau reported September 11 a large increase in the number of the Nation's younger school children. The bureau found in its 1930 count that of 38,387,032 persons between five and twenty years old, 26,849,639, or 69.9 per cent, were attending school. Ten years ago 21,373,976, or 64.3 per cent of 33,250,870 between the same ages were engaged in study. An increase in the number of older children attending classes also was shown. Girls and boys were about equally divided in the total school citizenry. Of the 19,112,883 girls, 13,327,871 were in school, while 13,521,768 of the total of 19,274,149 boys were enrolled. Of the urban population between five and twenty, 72.3 per cent were in school. In the rural farm districts, 66.4 per cent were studying, and in farm districts or villages 69.3 per cent were enrolled. The bulk of students twenty-one and over came from the urban areas, accounting for 738,193; the rural sections had 143,283, and the villages 156,217. (A.P., Sept. 11.)

### Section 3

#### Department of Agriculture

Award to Dr. David Fairchild, botanist and agriculture explorer, of the George Robert White Medal, highest horticultural honor in America, recently bestowed by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, oldest and most distinguished society of its kind in the country, calls attention to the vast changes in the plant geography of the United States. "Thirty-three years ago Doctor Fairchild organized the work in the Department of Agriculture which, crystallized in the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction, has introduced into the United States more than 80,000 separate species and varieties of useful plants," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic Society. "These new plants have added to the beauty and variety of the public parks and private gardens from coast to coast, and have enhanced the value of agricultural products by millions of dollars annually....Under his supervision, or with his cooperation, more than thirty expeditions have been sent out, with such explorers as Frank Meyer, T. H. Kearney, W. T. Swingle, Mark Carleton, Joseph F. Rock, Neils Hansen, Wilson Popenoe and P.H. Dorsett as leaders. They have brought back plants, shrubs, trees, vegetables, grains and forage crops which have beautified or made more valuable hundreds of thousands of acres of gardens, parks and farm lands of the country....The Office of Foreign Plant Introduction under Doctor Fairchild's direction has accumulated the most extensive collection of original field descriptions of useful crop plants in existence, the largest seed collection of economic plant species, and the greatest collection of photographs of useful plants in the world..."





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

September 11.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$10.15; cows, good and choice \$4.25 to \$6.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.50 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.25 to \$6.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$6.10 to \$6.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$5.25 to \$6.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.50 to \$7.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$5.85.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 70¢ to 75¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 50¢; St. Louis 49½ to 50¢; Kansas City 45½¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 41½ to 42½¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 42¢ to 43¢; Kansas City 43½¢ to 44¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 44¢ to 45¢; Minneapolis 46½¢ to 47¢; St. Louis 45¢; Kansas City 44½¢ to 45¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 20½¢ to 23¢; Minneapolis 22 7/8 to 23 7/8¢; St. Louis 21½¢; Kansas City 23½¢ to 25½¢.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 90¢-95¢ per 100 pounds in New York City; 85¢-90¢ f.o.b. New Jersey points. Maine sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1 in Boston; 50¢-55¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 85¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 75¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$14-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8.50-\$10 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin stock \$28-\$30 in St. Louis. Massachusetts and New York yellow onions brought \$2-\$2.25 sacked per 100 pounds in the East; \$1.75-\$1.90 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 60¢-\$1 per 50-pound sack in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.25-\$2.40 per stave barrel in consuming centers; \$1.50 f.o.b. New Jersey stock \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in a few cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-\$1 in the Middle West. Eastern Wealthy apples, No.1, 2½ inches up, brought 50¢-\$1 per bushel basket in eastern cities; 65¢ f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 2 points to 6.06¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 10.24¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 6.70¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 6.70¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score, 29½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15½ to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16½ to 16¾¢; Young Americas, 16¾ to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 64

Section 1

September 15, 1931.

## SOUTHERN COTTON PROPOSALS

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day says: "The Texas Legislature approached a test of strength last night between proponents of cotton acreage reduction and the 'no-cotton' plan of Governor Huey P. Long of Louisiana. The showdown, expected yesterday when the House began consideration of bills submitted, failed to materialize and definite action was carried over until to-day. In the House the fight narrowed down to a disagreement between advocates of the Long plan and supporters of a proposal indorsed by Governor Sterling of Texas to prohibit individual farmers from planting more than one-third of his cultivated land to cotton. It is expected that the latter plan would cut production 50 to 60 per cent. The Senate had for consideration these two plans and another to change the one-third figure to one-fifth. In the House, amendments to change to one-half and one-fourth were defeated. The proposal limiting the acreage to 50 per cent was voted down, 70 to 45. The other amendment for 25 per cent reduction was defeated, 68 to 45. It had been generally conceded that the Long plan will be defeated unless there should be a change of sentiment...."

## SUGAR TARIFF PROBE

An investigation of the duties levied on raw and refined sugar, molasses and related products was ordered yesterday by the Tariff Commission, according to the press to-day. The inquiry is to be made under terms of the flexible provisions of the Hawley-Smoot tariff act of 1930. A request for an investigation was made some time ago by domestic producers and refiners, particularly beet sugar growers of the West.

## INTERNATIONAL SUGAR COUNCIL

A Paris dispatch to-day states that the International Sugar Council, established last May to bring about effective operation of the Chadbourne five-year restriction plan, met in Paris yesterday under the presidency of Francis E. Powell, permanent chairman. Delegates representing all the signatory countries attended, and the developments in the world sugar position since the last meeting of the council in June were reviewed. The report says: "Among the important items upon the agenda for the present session are the possible adherence of Peru to the scheme and the redistribution of that part of the German export quota which German producers are unable to sell.... The delegates were interested in messages from Havana stating that arrangements for the control of sugar exports during 1932 had just been completed by Thomas L. Chadbourne. The preliminary estimate of European beet sugar production during 1932-33 places the total at 6,447,000 tons, or a decline in output, in comparison with last season, of 2,164,000 tons. This does not include Russian production, the official estimates for which are 2,700,000 tons, or about the same yield as last year...."

## TRADE DEPRESSION CENTER

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "The Institute for the Study of Trade Fluctuations declares this week that the center of gravity in the present world depression of trade, which in 1930 was on the other side of the Atlantic, has moved steadily toward Europe. At present western and northern Europe, which had hitherto shown considerable resisting power, seem to be threatened...."



## Section 2

Acreage Reduction      An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 12 says: "Three or four years ago, on this page, we invited the opinion of our readers about enforced acreage reduction. The question was whether or not it would be a good thing for the Government to tell farmers about how much they should plant or grow of the various agricultural commodities. The answers were so hot that it was almost necessary to print them on asbestos paper...Now Governor Murray of Oklahoma, having closed a large number of oil wells under martial law, proposes the curtailment of both cotton and wheat acreage by law. He would give the Governor and a board of control acreage reduction power to be effective by the agreement of other cotton or wheat States to take similar action. ...Perhaps it would be easier to effect complete abandonment of planting than to go part way, but it is our guess that in either case the Governors will find that they have got hold of a red hot poker. As for wheat, the job would be a good deal more involved, for wheat is grown in quantity in all parts of the country and in more than half the States. It is grown under almost every condition and for numerous uses. To get all of the States to pass laws enabling an agency of Government or the State to enforce acreage reduction, transcends practical imagination....The Federal Farm Board and the United States Department of Agriculture, co-operating with other agencies of State, have tried to bring about acreage reduction by educational means. Some progress has been made. Economic necessity will speed results. Farmers, in most instances, have objected even to this. What would be the reaction to a more stringent policy...."

Dairy Education Foundation      The Pacific Dairy Review for September says: "A \$1,000,000 foundation with a \$50,000 annual income for research to help make Oregon a great dairy State and the Northwest a great dairy region was outlined by J. C. Penney, merchant, in conference with a citizens' committee at San Francisco, Thursday evening. Penney, who built Penney Hall for boys and girls of the 4-H clubs at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition, is to take up the project with other leaders in advancement of dairy science on his return to New York. Participating in the conference with the business man whose hobby is fine dairy cattle were Professor P. M. Brandt, head of the dairy department of Oregon State College; Charles C. Hulet, master of the Oregon State Grange; O. M. Plummer, manager of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition; W. G. Ide, manager of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce; and Kenneth Miller."

Forestry      An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for September 12 says: "Our farming has already expanded too much perpendicularly and not enough horizontally. We need more useful crops. The crop that offers much hope is now being accepted by American farmers. Last year it made a gain of twenty-four per cent in this country, while Michigan led all States in its adoption. This crop is trees--forest trees. Last year 38,302 acres were reforested in Michigan. Wood will undoubtedly be in demand at good prices for a long time, and we can grow it on land that should not be, but is, devoted to the production of ordinary crops at a loss. Farmers can well afford to give close attention to forestry."







- Rabbit Development** "Chicago is to add to its fame as the meat-packing center of the world through the establishment of a new packing plant devoted exclusively to the preparation of rabbit meat. About 40 acres of land have been purchased by officials of the company, and construction will start soon on a group of buildings which will represent an initial investment of \$250,000. The entrance to the main building will contain a large display cage of live animals. The main building will house a large schoolroom, where breeders will be instructed in the correct methods of raising rabbits. Near the main building and fronting on a heavily traveled motor highway will be erected an eating establishment to be known as 'Rabbit Brook Inn,' which will specialize in the preparing and serving of rabbit meat and other rabbit food products." (Wall St. Journal, Sept. 12.)
- Tractor Farming** An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 12 says: "Several years ago, the farm management people at the University of Illinois had a study which rather indicated that farmers without tractors tended to make a little more money than those who had tractors. In 1930, however, it was discovered, after keeping cost accounts on 380 farms, that 64 out of the 76 most profitable farms had tractors, whereas only 58 out of the 76 least profitable farms had tractors. Also 29 out of the 76 most profitable farms had trucks, whereas only 25 out of the 76 least profitable farms had trucks. These figures would indicate that there are plenty of farmers who have tractors who are losing money very rapidly, but that also many of the most successful farmers in every community have tractors. At the present time, tractors apparently make somewhat more for success than they do for failure...."
- Unemployment Insurance** An editorial in The Magazine of Wall Street for September 5 says: "It looks as if the British Socialists' scheme of recapturing prosperity by taking it from individuals who have it and giving it to those who have it not, by the process of heavy taxation and liberal public spending, is about at an end. The temporary coalition government that has been called into power to deal with the budget crisis will probably be replaced by a conservative government. A country which has the capitalistic system must give the capitalists a chance. Taxing them overmuch destroys them....If the British capitalists hadn't been bled white to pay doles there probably wouldn't have been any doles demanding liquidation. The money that might have made Britain thrive has been spent to keep it from thriving. Britain has at last turned to the only way out. The United States should take a warning from British experience. The necessities of the present emergency must not be allowed to create a precedent for the establishment of a permanent unemployed class. We must take care of the unemployed but we must not foster unemployment."
- Wool Market** The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for September 12 says: "There has been a slower market this week, and fine and fine medium wools of the ordinary type are a bit easier, say 2 cents, clean basis, from the recent high. Half-bloods are easy, three-eighths firm, quarter combing steady and low quarters firm. The Australian market has shown a further easing tendency this week, and attention is now focused on London, with an offering of nearly 147,000 bales, commencing Tuesday next. The piece



goods market is less active in men's wear, but there is some business reported in women's wear light weight woolens and worsteds."

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### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for September 12 says: "A subscriber was having trouble with his sheep. Some sickness was killing them off. He wrote in for information and our veterinary editor quickly replied. As the inquiry and answer were of general interest we published them. Another subscriber, who had experienced similar trouble and was able to cure it, after an expensive loss, wrote in his experience to the farmer. One of the first things he did was to call in the county agricultural agent for council and advice. In advising this fellow farmer he stated early in his letter 'get a county agent's help,' indicating his appreciation of the work done and assistance rendered by such an individual. More and more farmers are coming to use and appreciate the work of county agricultural agents."

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# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Sept. 14.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$9.75; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$10.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$6.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5.10 to \$6.20; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.85 to \$6.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$6 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6 to \$7.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$5.85.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $72\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis  $48\frac{1}{2}$  to 49¢; Kansas City 44 to 46¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago  $49\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City  $41\frac{3}{4}$  to 45¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $45\frac{1}{2}$  to 46¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago  $43\frac{1}{4}$  to  $43\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $46\frac{1}{2}$  to  $47\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $45\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 46 to 48¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago  $21\frac{1}{4}$  to 22¢; Minneapolis 23 to  $23\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 24 to  $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (Nom).

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes 90¢-\$1 per 100 pounds in the East; 85¢ f.o.b. Maine sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1 in Boston; 50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 85¢-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago 65¢-75¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. Massachusetts and New York sacked yellow onions ranged \$2-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.75-\$1.90 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern sacked yellows 70¢-\$1.15 per 50 pounds in city markets. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$11-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.25-\$2 per stave barrel in city markets; few \$1.50 f.o.b. Tennessee Nancy Halls 65¢-90¢ per bushel basket in the Middle West. Eastern Wealthy apples, A  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, 75¢-\$1 in eastern cities; 70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Vermont McIntosh \$4-\$4.50 per barrel in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 1 point to 5.96¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.20¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 6.54¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 6.56¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 65

Section 1

September 16, 1931.

## THE PRESIDENT'S HOME BUILDING

A new Hoover plan of heroic proportions, designed at once to aid in overcoming business depression and add to the permanent well-being of the Nation by stimulating home building and home owning, was announced by the President yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The plan is to work out, on solid lines, means by which families may be encouraged to buy their own homes and by which better buying terms, as regards credits, may be provided, so that home buying will be easier and safer. To this end, 1,000 delegates, the President announced, will meet at Washington December 2, 3, 4 and 5 to discuss the results of more than one year of study by 31 committees...."

## SOUTHERN COTTON PROPOSALS

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day says: "The wrath of Texas legislators, aroused by accusations of Governor Long of Louisiana that they were influenced by money, appeared last night to have destroyed any chances for adoption by Texas of the 1932 cotton prohibition plan championed by Long. No vote was in prospect before to-day, but sentiment in both houses appeared aligned definitely in support of acreage curtailment, either to one-third or one-fourth of the land in cultivation. Members predicted this action would result in a 50 per cent reduction in the 1932 crop...."

A Raleigh, N.C., dispatch to-day says: "Governor Gardner yesterday telegraphed to Representative A. P. Johnson of the Texas Legislature that 'no session of the North Carolina General Assembly would be called to consider legislation to completely abandon the growing of cotton in North Carolina in 1932.'"

## FARM PARLEY

A Chicago dispatch to-day reports: "A five-point offensive, designed to unify America's agricultural interests, was launched yesterday by State extension directors and farm agency representatives. Formulated in a two-day conference called by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the plan of battle consists of: Strengthening the State extension services to more completely round up the farm people into the general farm organizations; instilling the 'principles of true cooperation' in rural communities through forces of land-grant colleges, extension service, general farm organizations, the Federal Farm Board, cooperative associations, teachers of vocational agricultural education and the rural press...."

## BRITISH TARIFF PROPOSAL

A London dispatch to-day says: "Sir John Simon, prominent liberal and long one of the staunchest free traders in Great Britain, announced in the House of Commons yesterday that he had changed his mind and now favored the imposition of tariffs as one means of pulling the nation out of the economic depression.... Sir John said in his speech that something drastic had to be done to restore the trade balance and to avert a situation which is growing more serious daily. A tariff on imports, he added, seemed the only way out...."





## Section 2

Bankers  
Conven-  
tion

An editorial in Commercial West for September 12 says: "The banking situation, as it has appeared to the public in recent months calls for progressive action at the forthcoming annual convention of the American Bankers Association, to be held in Atlantic City, October 5 to 8 inclusive. From present indications the leaders in the A.B.A. are prepared to meet the situation. In his call for the convention President Rome C. Stephenson of the association says: 'The bank failure history of the past two years in this country challenges our profession and our association to a new era of activity and achievement. Great tasks lie ahead of us. They demand the earnest and active participation of bankers in all parts of the Nation in the deliberations of the convention.' ..."

British  
Agricul-  
tural Mar-  
keting  
Act

The Scottish Farmer for September 5 says: "The Agricultural Marketing Bill after passing through both Houses of Parliament received the Royal Assent on 31st July last, and was placed upon the Statute Book as the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931. Few if any legislative measures in recent years has been the subject of more lively discussion in the farming community....The reasons for the Agricultural Marketing Act are indicated in the introductory chapter. Both at home and abroad agriculture is recognizing the urgent need for an improved system of marketing, and is setting out in diverse ways to attain it. Marketing reform is being pursued in two main directions--by way of standardization and by way of organization. Standardization is a fundamental principle in our modern commercial system, and its advantages are now well known, although until within recent years those advantages were not so fully recognized by the British farmer as by his foreign rival. In all countries legislation has proved to be necessary to put standardization on a national basis. The legislation in this country has taken the form of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts of 1928 and 1931. With the aid of these acts a number of voluntary schemes of commodity grading and marking have been introduced, while others are in course of formulation. Standardized 'National Mark' produce has attained wide popularity among distributors and consumers alike, and has in fact gone a long way towards selling itself....The commodity organizations contemplated by the act may be national or local, and the procedure regulating their initiation and control is thoroughly democratic in character. There must be a poll on which all affected producers can vote, before any scheme can come into full operation. Emphasis is laid on the fact that the act sets out to regulate marketing and 'not to protect a particular market and reserve it for any given set of producers'; and finally, it is emphasized that the intention of the act is not to supersede existing distributive or manufacturing agencies, so far as they are efficient and economical, but rather that producers should set about the organization of their marketing in cooperation with them...."

## County Taxes

The press of September 15 says: "A movement to force county officials to reduce taxes is making much headway in Kansas, Missouri and Minnesota and is attracting the attention of Federal authorities, who feel that taxpayers in general are not suffering so much from the burden of Federal taxes as from excessive local levies. In Missouri the movement has been advanced by Governor Henry S. Caulfield, who, in a public



appeal on August 26, advised the taxpayers to demand relief from their local authorities. The taxpayers in Missouri have formed committees in many counties and demanded that expenses be reduced and levies lowered. The effect of these protests was felt in half a dozen counties in Missouri, and taxpayers in Kansas followed suit with the result that school, road and other local taxes have been reduced in both States. The most impressive action is reported from Buffalo, the seat of Wright County, Minnesota, within sixty miles of St. Paul. More than 3,000 farmers left their fields last Friday and forced the county board to reduce proposed expenditures by several thousand dollars and to promise a marked cut in next year's taxes...."

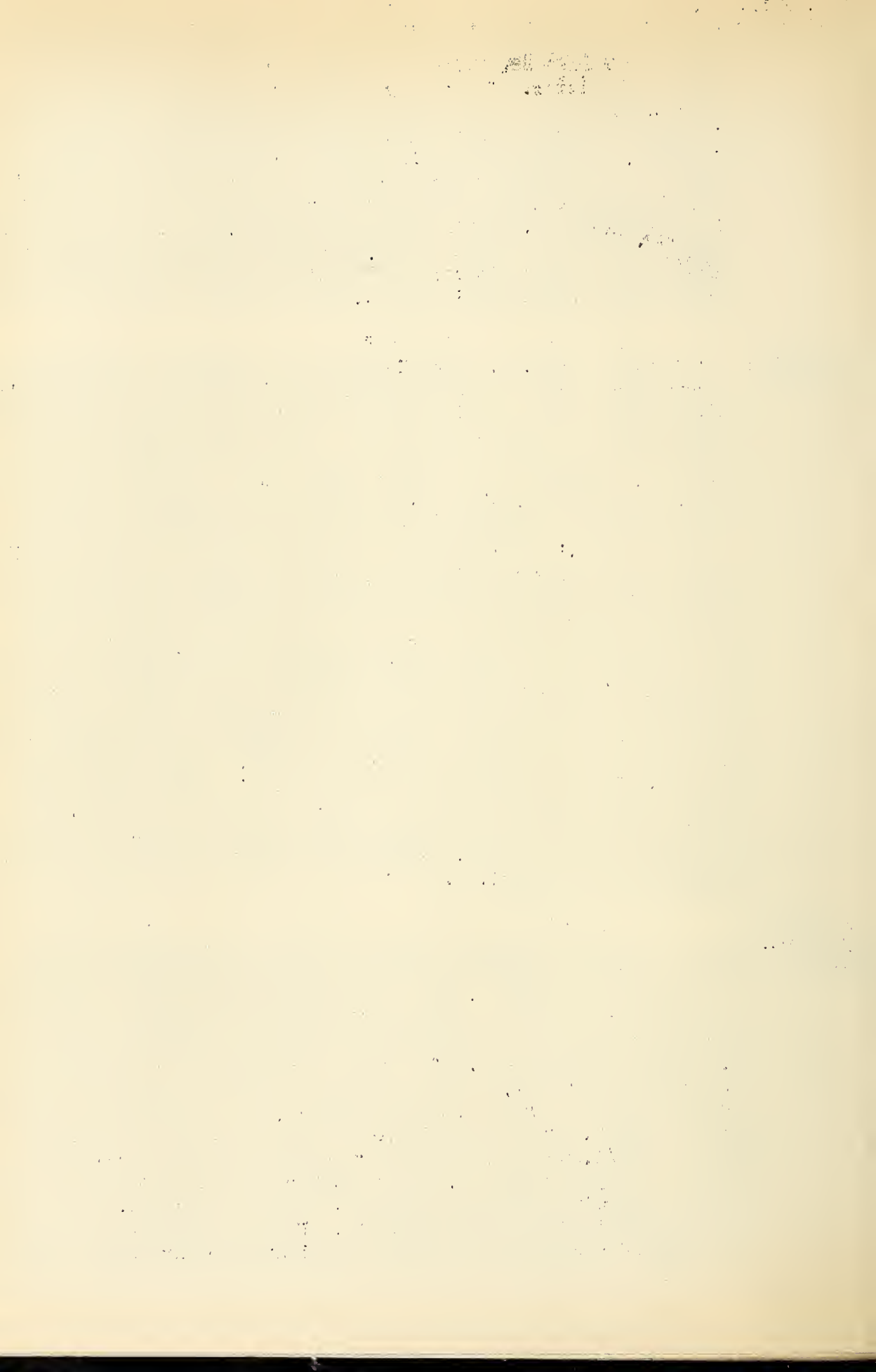
Duck Con-  
serva-tion

An editorial entitled "Ducks or No Ducks," in Field and Stream for October, says: "...From Toronto, J. P. Turner writes: 'For thirty years I have lived on the Canadian prairies and am fully conversant with the history of all species of game in that area during that period. I truly believe we are on the edge of a wild duck calamity on this continent. Some species are in grave danger now. I believe that it is up to all the sportsmen of the United States and Canada to get together and in one supreme, unselfish, whole-hearted and concerted endeavor swing in line to help the wild duck crop to weather the dire straits into which it has fallen.' At a meeting held July 18, game officials of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and Manitoba passed a resolution recommending that in both this country and Canada the open season this year be restricted to 30 days and that the daily bag be 10. Under date of July 29 the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington issued a news release entitled 'Reduced Waterfowl Kill Foreseen By Officials.' The release tells of investigations made by Canadian and United States officials who traveled throughout the principal duck-brooding areas of Canada. Conditions could not be painted blacker... Last year we cut the bag limit from 25 to 15. Then we shortened the season. The handwriting is on the wall. There will probably be another cut in both bag limit and season. Before this is printed, additional restrictions may have been imposed and final steps taken in an attempt to remedy the situation. Possibly all waterfowl shooting will be prohibited for one year!...."

Poultry  
Farm In-  
come

An editorial in New England Homestead for September 12 says: "One of the most important features of farm organization is that of a business large enough so that the operator can secure a good return for his hours of labor. Over in the neighboring State of New York, the agricultural college at Cornell University has compiled figures showing the labor income on commercial poultry farms, which should interest our New England poultrymen. The average labor income on 124 farms with an average number of 1,394 layers per farm, and a production of 16,702 dozens of eggs per farm, amounted to \$1,547 for the year ending September 30, 1930. Average production per bird amounted to 144 eggs. An income of \$1,500 a year for labor compares favorably with the wage paid by many city occupations. Even under present conditions the business of poultry farming has its advantages. To say the least, the poultryman has no one to fire him but himself. When these 124 poultry farms are classified according to size they tell an important story. Farms with







less than 700 layers, averaging about 500, had a capital of \$10,000, gross receipts of \$3,600, and made an average labor income of \$369. Farms with from 700 to 1,200 birds, averaging 900, had a capital of \$15,000, gross receipts of \$6,291, and made a labor income of \$819. Farms with 1,200 or more birds, averaging 1,900, had a capital of \$26,000, gross receipts of \$13,859, and made a labor income of \$2,344. It is quickly evident that farms with four times the 500 layer flock had gross receipts nearly four times as large, but the labor income for the operator was nearly seven times greater. Hence the importance of the poultryman, or any other farmer for that matter, putting his time to its greatest use. For the poultryman, the Cornell College believes this means a flock of 2,000 birds or more. While profits are likely to be greater, the reverse is also true; namely, that the larger farms lose most when egg prices are so low that losses are general throughout the industry."

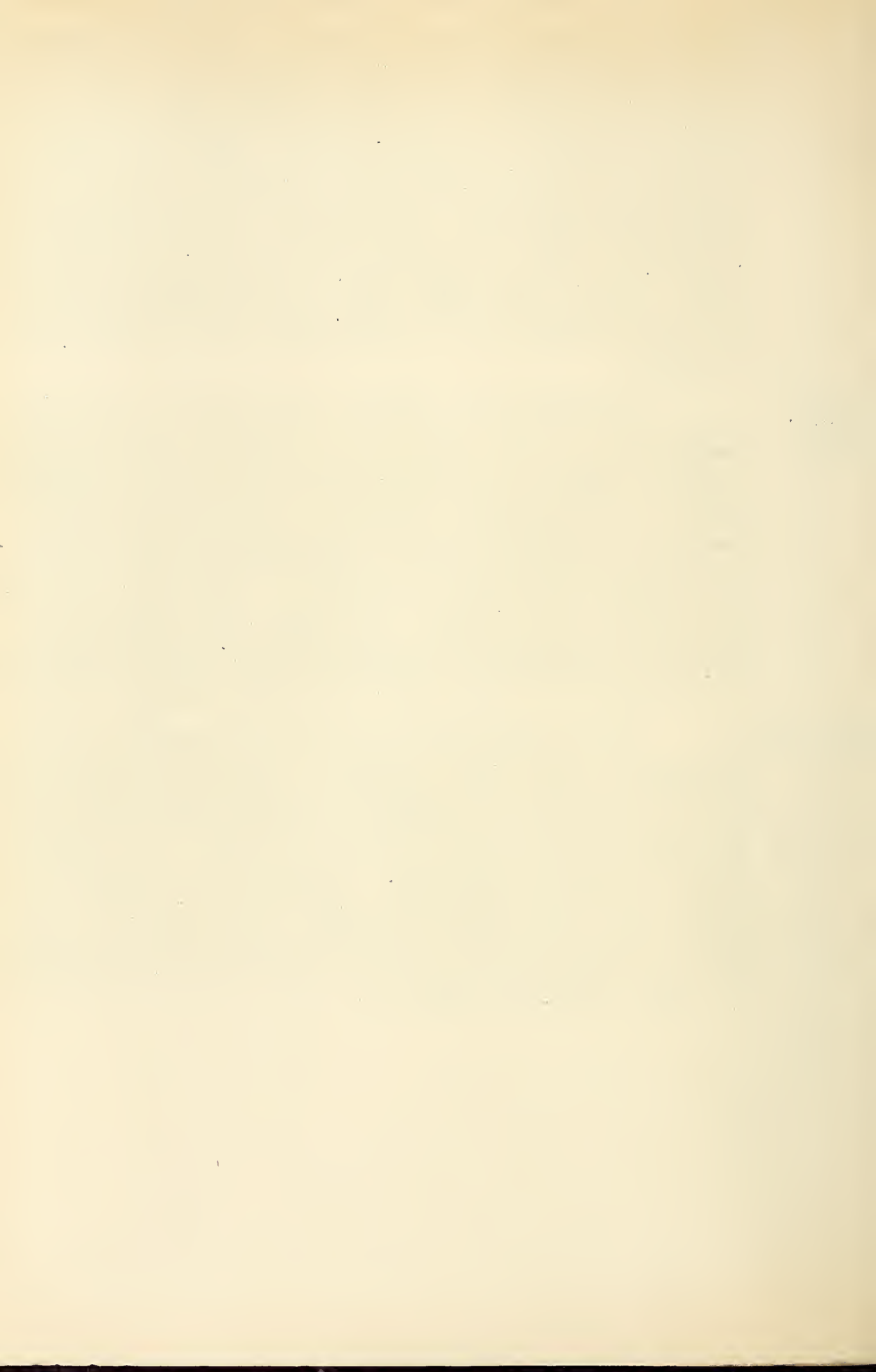
#### Virgin Islands Plans

A prediction that economic rehabilitation of the Virgin Islands might be solved under a new plan to be carried out by the Insular Government with the aid of Federal appropriations was made September 14 in a report by Charles F. Knox, West Indian expert of the Latin-American section of the Department of Commerce, according to the press of September 15. As described by Mr. Knox, the program provides for the introduction of new industries and the rehabilitation of old ones to offset the disastrous results of the recession of sugar prices and the commercial decline of St. Thomas, the chief port. Promoting of handicrafts and forming of cooperative marketing associations for the cattle and charcoal industries have been decided upon. Diversification of crops also will be encouraged, especially the wider growing of vegetables and the introduction of citrus fruits for northern markets in winter.

#### Wheat Situa- tion

Wheat Studies of The Food Research Institute, Stanford University, Calif., for September include a survey of the wheat situation from April to July, 1931. A summary of this survey says: "Pessimism continued to dominate the principal wheat markets during most of April-July. Wheat prices on the international market and in exporting countries fell to new low levels by the end of July, though in important continental European importing countries prices were maintained by high tariffs and milling regulations. Export and international prices declined in the face of crop developments that now suggest a world wheat crop of 1931 substantially smaller than that of 1930, of an active European demand for wheat in most of the period, and of the maintenance of a large ex-European demand...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 15.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.50; cows, good and choice \$4 to \$6.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.25; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$6.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$6.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.50 to \$5.80; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.75 to \$5.65 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6 to \$7.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$6.85.

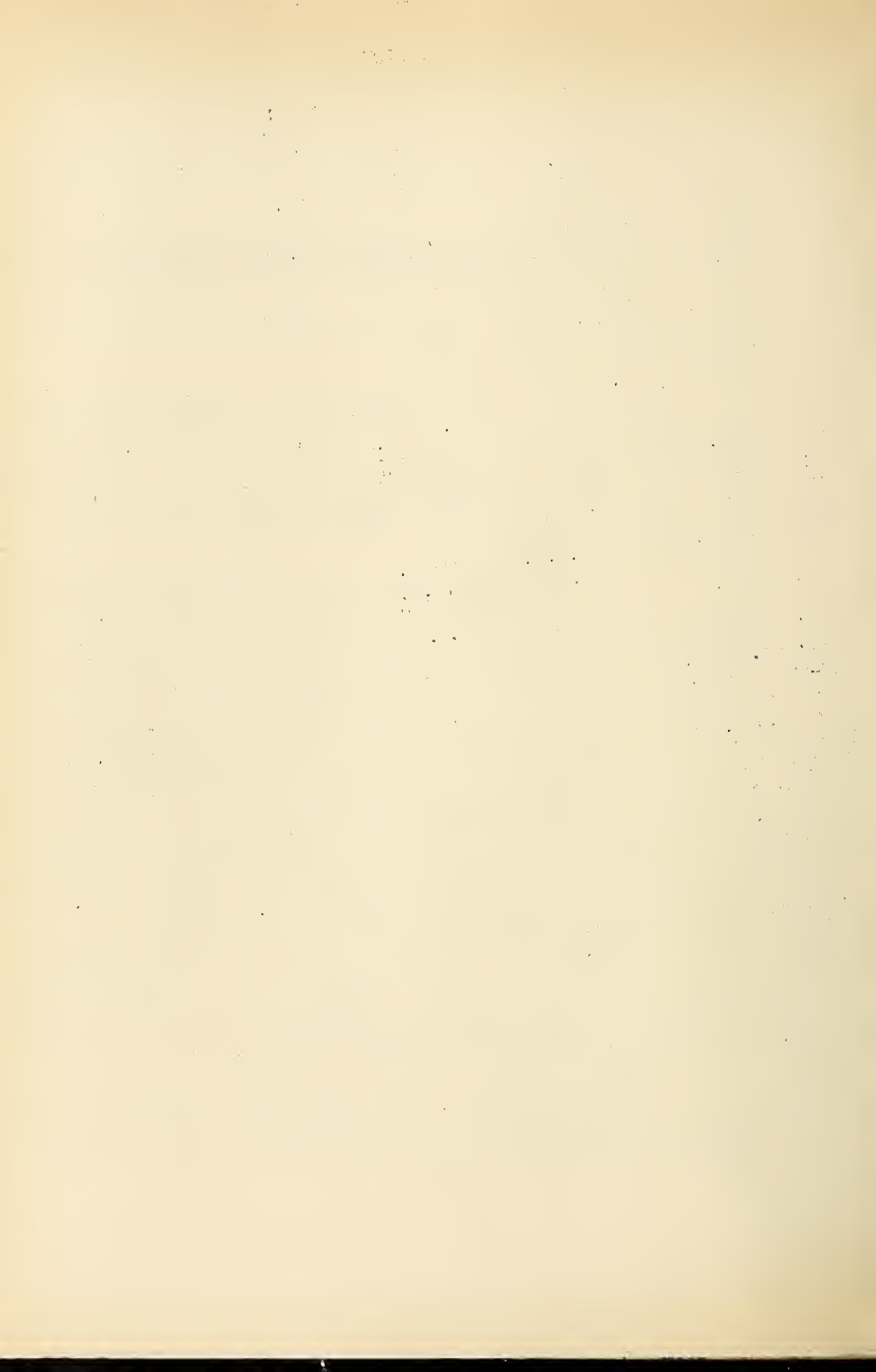
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 69  $7\frac{7}{8}\phi$  to 73  $7\frac{7}{8}\phi$ ; No.2 red winter, Kansas City 44 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  to 47 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  (Nom); St. Louis 49 $\phi$  to 49 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 51 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Kansas City 43 $\phi$  to 44 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 43 $\phi$  to 44 $\phi$ ; Kansas City 46 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  to 47 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.3 yellow, Chicago 45 $\phi$  to 46 $\phi$ ; Minneapolis 47 $\phi$  to 48 $\phi$ ; Kansas City 47 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  to 48 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; St. Louis 45 $\phi$ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 22 $\phi$  to 24 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Minneapolis 23 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$  to 23 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ ; Kansas City 25 $\phi$  to 26 $\phi$  (Nom); St. Louis 22 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Long Island Cobbler potatoes \$1-\$1.35 sacked per 100 pounds in city markets; 80 $\phi$ -85 $\phi$  f.o.b. Riverhead. New Jersey sacked stock 85 $\phi$ -\$1.25 in eastern cities; 85 $\phi$ -88 $\phi$  f.o.b. Maine sacked Cobblers 85 $\phi$ -95 $\phi$  in Boston; 45 $\phi$ -50 $\phi$  f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 90 $\phi$ -95 $\phi$  carlot sales in Chicago; 75 $\phi$ -80 $\phi$  f.o.b. Waupaca. Massachusetts and New York sacked yellow onions brought \$1.85-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in the East; \$1.75-\$1.80 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 50 $\phi$ -90 $\phi$  per 50-pound sack in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes ranged \$1-\$2.10 per stave barrel in consuming centers; \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. Eastern Shore. New Jersey stock \$1.25-\$1.40 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls 65 $\phi$ -80 $\phi$  per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Domestic Round type cabbage \$12-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Round type \$20-\$25 in St. Louis. New York Wealthy apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, 75 $\phi$ -\$1 per bushel basket in city markets; 65 $\phi$ -70 $\phi$  f.o.b. western New York points. Vermont McIntosh \$4-\$4.50 per barrel in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 10 points to 6.06 $\phi$  per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 10.26 $\phi$ . October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 12 points to 6.66 $\phi$ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 6.66 $\phi$ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; 91 score, 32 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; 90 score, 29 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17 $\phi$ ; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ ; Young Americas, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 17 $\phi$ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 66

Section 1

September 17, 1931.

## FARM BOARD

### REJECTS WHEAT PLAN

The Federal Farm Board yesterday rejected the proposed "Walla Walla plan" for selling its surplus wheat to farmers themselves on the ground that this would encourage speculation instead of minimizing the practice, according to the press to-day. The proposal, so-called because it was originated by a group in Walla Walla headed by Representative John W. Summers of Washington, recommended that the Farm Board sell its wheat on credit at current prices to farmers who would guarantee to abandon wheat production equivalent to the amount of wheat purchased by them.

## SOUTHERN COTTON PLANS

A Baton Rouge dispatch to-day says: "After having been called a 'liar' by the Texas Senate, Gov. Huey P. Long last night gave up his fight for a southern cotton holiday. Governor Long, in a radio address, said he was singing his 'swan song' on the Louisiana cotton holiday plan and was through with his fight for cotton prohibition.

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day states that the Texas House of Representatives overwhelmingly defeated a bill embodying the principles of the "no cotton" plan of Gov. Huey Long of Louisiana.

## SWOPE OFFERS

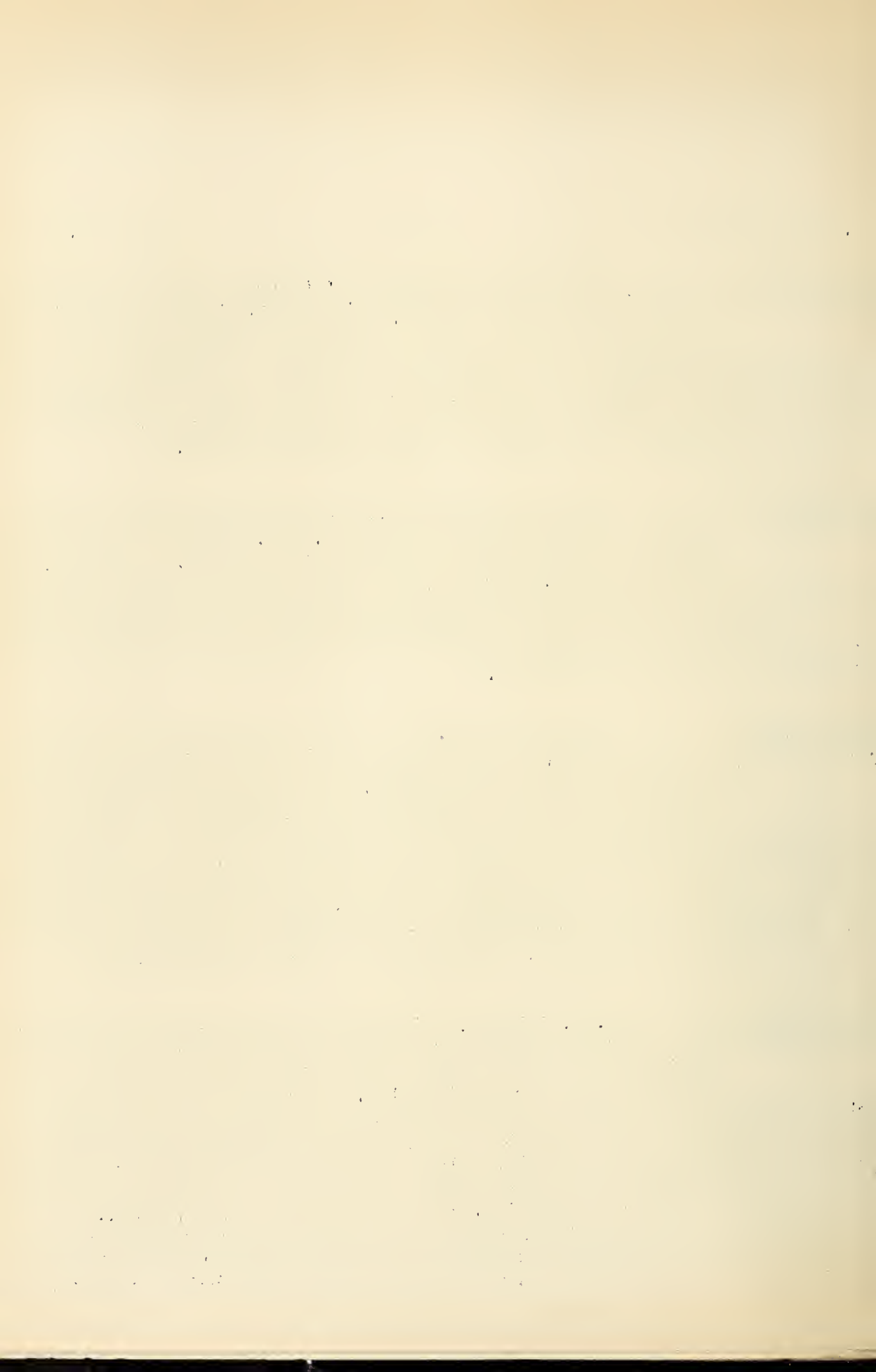
### INDUSTRIAL PLAN

The press to-day states that Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company, at the annual dinner of the National Electrical Manufacturers' Association at New York last night, proposed a new constitution for industry, designed to stabilize production and consumption, to minimize unemployment and to solve adequately the problem of security for the worker and his family in illness, disability, involuntary idleness, old age and death. The report says: "The plan envisaged the voluntary organization of each industry into an appropriate national trade association, which would, through formulated rules--free from anti-trust law restraint--exercise control over production, coordinating it with consumption...."

## THE PRESIDENT AND

### FOREIGN DEBTS

R. V. Oulahan, writing in The New York Times yesterday, said: "Efforts on the part of influential bankers to persuade President Hoover to make another bold stroke for the relief of the world economic and financial situation, analogous to his proposal for a year's holiday in the payment of reparations and all other intergovernmental debts, have been unavailing. It is possible to say that the President has determined to make no new proposal along that line. The efforts of the bankers were concentrated chiefly on a suggestion that the President should call on the nations concerned for an extension of the year's moratorium, which will expire July 1, 1932....The President's position, it was gathered yesterday, is that until the European powers adjust their own political affairs, any measures of relief undertaken by the United States Government would be ineffective as a means of ameliorating their economic distress...."



## Section 2

## Age Scales

More women over 75 years of age are living in the United States than men, although the total male population is greater. Census Bureau statistics issued September 10 showed 997,444 women within five years of the four-score mark, as against 915,752 men. The male population of 62,137,080 outnumbered the female by 1,499,114. Increasing also was the age 65 to age 74 category, bearing out the contentions of the Public Health Service that the life span is lengthening. At the other end of the age-scale, a falling birth rate showed itself in lowered percentages of children under 5, with lowered percentages for boys in age groups up to 15 and lowered percentages for girls up to 25 years.

British  
Budget

A London dispatch September 15 says: "Britain's three-party government won another victory last night when its economy bill, authorizing orders in council for reducing present expenditures by \$350,000,000, was passed on its second reading in the House of Commons by a vote of 310 to 253....Now that balancing of the budget is assured, leaders of all parties are chiefly concerned with the next great question, the balancing of foreign trade, which was against Great Britain by more than \$1,000,000,000 for the first eight months of the year. The budget can not stay balanced long unless something is done to increase exports and decrease imports. As a first step, Premier MacDonald yesterday appointed a sub-committee of the Cabinet to consider the whole question. Part of that question concerns the advisability of a prohibition on luxury imports, but that alone will not put the balance of trade in favor of this country. Beyond that lies a tariff, which is going to be much discussed, even if not adopted, in the near future...."

China and  
Wheat

The New Republic for September 16 says: "China has completed negotiations with the United States for the purchase of 15,000,000 bushels of wheat. She needs more, and we need to sell more, but this is all she can afford to buy at present, even on long-term credits. This quantity of wheat, will, of course, do little to alleviate the dreadful condition among the victims of the recent floods and typhoon. The amount is too small; but even if it were larger, the means of transport are lacking. Medical supplies are as badly needed as food, and are equally unavailable. No one knows how many persons have already died; the most popular estimate is half a million. Nobody knows how many more will perish, of starvation, exposure or disease, but the number may easily run into the millions. The apathy with which the rest of the world contemplates this tragedy is an extraordinary phenomenon, but one quite possible to understand. For it is now generally recognized that China is paying the price for a tremendous overpopulation, and that the great floods, themselves due largely to the deforesting of large areas in the search for more land to cultivate, are merely accomplishing in one year the work that starvation might do in ten."

## Lippmann on

Conditions New York Herald Tribune for September 16, says: "...The true way to go about restoring confidence is not to pretend that there is no ground for anxiety, but to face and come to terms with the fundamental cause of the general anxiety. That may seem like a large order, but as a







matter of fact there is very general agreement throughout the world as to what the general cause is. It is the catastrophic fall in wholesale prices which has upset all the calculations on which the private and public business of the world was being conducted....The problem can be studied in any government budget, in any business, on any farm. Taking the situation to-day as against three years ago, income has declined because the same goods sell at a much lower price, and in addition less goods are sold. In the case of government revenues derived from taxes upon incomes or sales have declined. But while income has fallen, tax rates have not, interest on mortgages and bonds have not, legally fixed pensions have not, contractual salaries have not, and wages in strongly unionized trades have not. The fixed costs have not only not declined, they have in reality increased....

"The great question confronting all the highly developed countries is whether these fixed incomes can be maintained at the present levels of their purchasing power. Can taxpayers pay government debts which have suddenly grown 10 to 20 per cent bigger? Can farmers meet mortgages which in terms of their products have suddenly grown perhaps 50 per cent bigger? Can business revive with a heavier tax bill, increased overhead costs, and a larger bill for real wages?...This coming winter the statesmen and the financial leaders of all countries will be confronted with the question of whether the world must adjust itself permanently to a low price level or whether an effort can and should be made by concerted action to raise it. If a low price level is to continue there is no slightest doubt that in one way or another readjustment of many fixed obligations will become inevitable. Responsible men had better make up their minds, therefore, how this is to be done in the most orderly possible fashion, or they will be confronted with an irresistible agitation to do it in some less desirable way. If on the other hand the view prevails which is strongly held by the less orthodox financiers in England, Germany and the United States as well as by most producers the world over, that an attempt should be made to raise the price level, no time ought to be lost in preparing plans to effect it and control it...."

#### Russia

Commerce and Finance for Sept. 16 says: "Colonel Hugh L. Cooper, hydroelectric engineer, has returned from his seventh trip to Russia in five years. Considered an outstanding American expert on Russia and the Five-Year-Plan, Colonel Cooper reviewed the Russian situation saying: 'Russia is working now on a basis of state capitalism and communism has been discarded. It is the only government to-day whose enemies recognize it as stable and a state where law and order prevails. They are now operating on a basis of state capitalism and eventually will turn to a modified capitalism. When the steel plants under construction and those now planned are operating normally, their output plus the output of the steel mills now working will be about 16,000,000 tons a year; the industrial section of the plan, with one exception, will be somewhat behind the estimated production schedule. Living standards are now better than a year ago, but are still deplorably low.'"

#### TB Control in Cali- fornia

The Pacific Dairy Review for September says: "The California department of agriculture, through a proclamation by Dudley Moulton, its director, has established bovine tuberculosis control areas in twenty



counties, under the provisions of the law passed at the recent session of the California Legislature. The law carried an appropriation of \$415,000 for the two-year period, which will be in part matched by an appropriation from the Federal Government...."

Trade Re-  
lations

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 12 says: "In its negotiations for the sale of the wheat and cotton surplus abroad, the Farm Board seems to be getting a little closer to a solution of the problem. Considered in the abstract, the matter seems simple enough. Brazil wants our cotton; we want their coffee. Why not trade? England wants our wheat; we could use their manufactured products. Germany wants our lard; we could use their clocks, toys and a hundred other of their products. Why can't we trade?...We are making gains in even considering such trades. The older proposal to sell wheat to Europe on long credit might have helped things for a short time, but held no promise of any real benefit....To trade our surplus goods for their surplus goods is another and a much sounder proposal...."

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Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in Nature Magazine for October says: "As we go to press we learn that an amendment to the regulations, approved by the President, reduces the legal season for hunting ducks and geese from three months to one month....The concern that has been displayed by those interested in wildfowling, and the support that has been promised, indicate that the necessity for restrictive action is generally recognized, and that hearty cooperation will be the rule. To the extent that the gunners abide by the new regulations, so will they justify their claims to sportsmanship. In times of famine rations must be reduced. Fewer ducks and geese for more hunters (without considering those who prefer their ducks alive) means less for each one. And there is an old proverb that says that half a loaf is better than none. Sportsmen will do well to recall it."

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# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$9.50; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$9.25; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$6.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.90 to \$5.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.35 to \$5.65; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.50 to \$5.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6 to \$7.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$6.85.

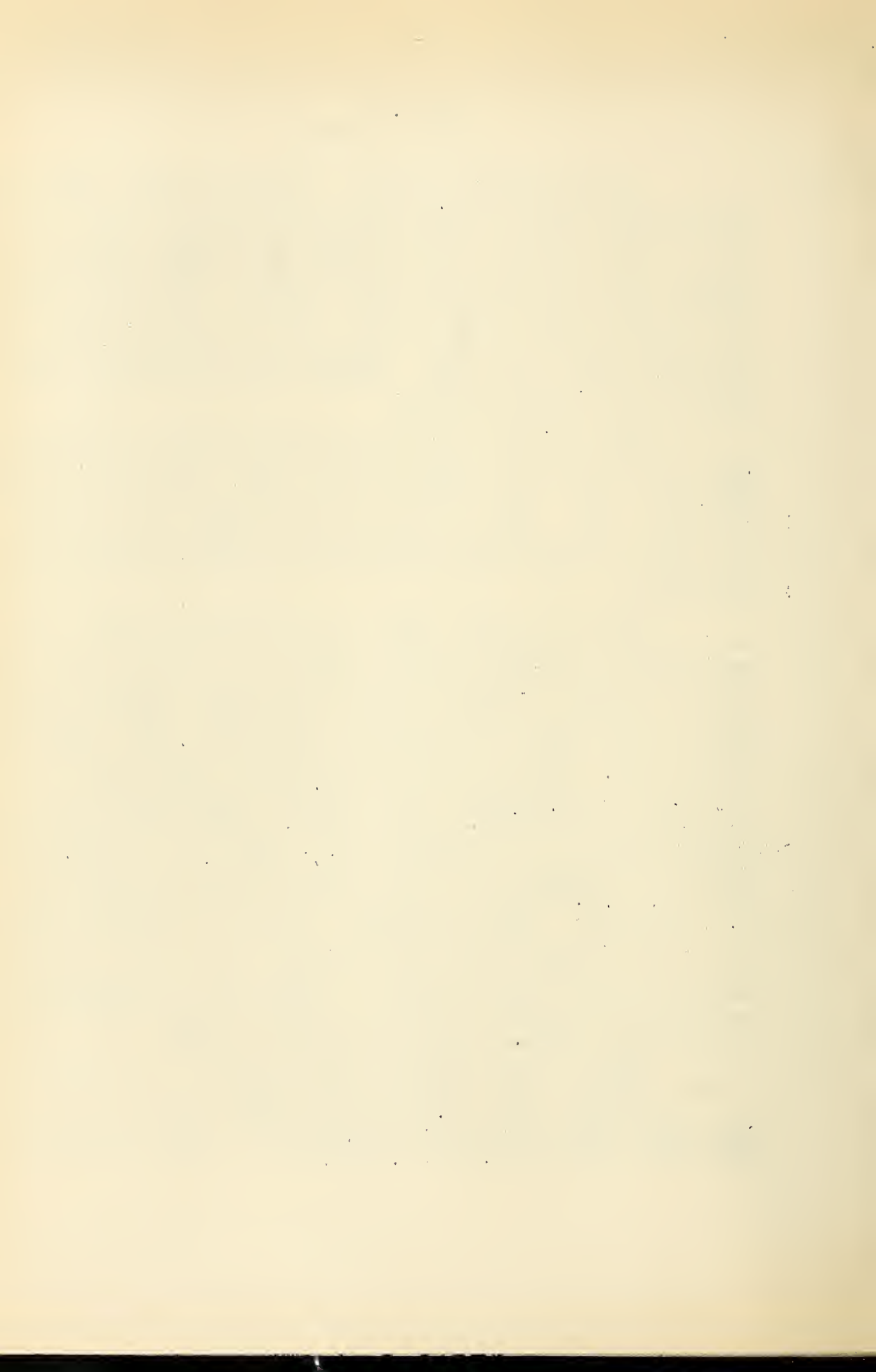
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $71\frac{1}{2}$  to  $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 51¢; St. Louis  $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 46¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago  $51\frac{1}{4}$  to  $52\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City  $43\frac{1}{2}$  to 45¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis  $43\frac{1}{2}$  to  $44\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $47\frac{1}{2}$  to  $48\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago  $46\frac{1}{4}$  to  $46\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $47\frac{1}{2}$  to  $48\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 46¢; Kansas City 49 to 50¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 22¢ to  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $23\frac{1}{2}$  to 24¢; St. Louis 23¢; Kansas City  $25\frac{1}{2}$  to  $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes brought 85¢-\$1 in the East; top of \$1.25 in Pittsburgh; 85-88¢ f.o.b. New Jersey points. Maine sacked Cobblers 80¢-90¢ in Boston; 45-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1 carlot sales in Chicago; 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts sacked yellow onions ranged \$1.75-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; \$1.75-\$1.80 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 50¢-90¢ per 50-pound sack in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$2 per stave barrel in eastern cities; few \$1.25-\$1.35 f.o.b. Tennessee Nancy Halls 65¢-80¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Domestic Round type cabbage \$11-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin stock \$28-\$30 in St. Louis. New York Wealthy apples, No.1,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, \$2.50-\$2.75 per barrel in New York City; bushels 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Wealthys,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches up, 60¢-75¢ in Chicago.

The average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 13 points to 5.93¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 10.28¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 13 points to 6.53¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 12 points to 6.54¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 67

Section 1

September 18, 1931.

## BANK AID MOVEMENT

The beginning of a nation-wide movement on the part of member banks and others, for cooperation with receivers of insolvent banks to advance funds whereby depositors in the latter may receive promptly a part of their money, was disclosed yesterday in official circles at Washington, according to the press to-day. The report says: "While such steps already have been taken in some localities, the movement is reported to have received impetus from the meeting of the advisory committee of the Federal Reserve Board in Washington this week. The Federal Reserve Board is not a direct party to the movement, since such a policy is not possible under the law, but indirectly the reserve banks are understood to be helping to carry out the program for the release of frozen assets...."

## SOUTHERN COTTON PLANS

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day says: "After decisively rejecting the plan of Gov. Huey P. Long of Louisiana, advocate of no cotton planting in 1932, Texas legislators last night were in disagreement over provisions of suggested curtailment measures.... The House yesterday passed a curtailment bill which would restrict cotton planting to one-third of the cultivated area. The vote was 86 to 32. A coalition Senate bill was amended to restrict planting to one-fourth the land in cultivation. The Senate measure, however, has not been subjected to a final vote...."

## SCIENTIFIC MARKETING PROMOTION

The Association for the Advancement of Science in Marketing was formed at a meeting last night at New York, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The organizers said that the association will work actively to encourage a scientific approach to marketing problems, develop better marketing men and hasten establishment of a marketing profession. The provisional officers were elected as follows: President, Paul T. Cherrington, distribution consultant; first vice president, L. D. H. Weld, research director, McCann-Suckow, Inc.; secretary, N. W. Barnes, Marketing Associates, Inc.; treasurer, A. M. Crossley...."

## CURRENCY STAB- ILIZATION

A Chicago dispatch September 17 says: "A '100-cent dollar' was the goal to-day of a conference of farm leaders, economists and editors of agricultural publications. To-day's session was the first of a series to formulate a legislative program designed to place the level of prices once again at the general level of 1926. This program will be presented at the December annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, sponsor of the conference."

## FREIGHT RATES

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission yesterday filed a brief with the Interstate Commerce Commission opposing granting of any increase in freight rates at this time, according to the press to-day.





## Section 2

British  
Canning  
Projects

A London correspondent of The Wall St. Journal, writing to the issue for September 17, says: "It has been a poor season for British farmers....Against this dark and murky background of rainy days and ruined crops, of competition and closed markets, a new British industry is limned in colors bright as hope. It is fruit canning--and down in Kent, within shadow of the great Canterbury Cathedral, nimble fingers are sorting and grading fruit; a little army of workers mans machines--made in Britain--and English fruit is being sweetened with English beet-sugar. They are canning peaches now, but earlier in the season--for Kent is the garden of England--21,000 cans of cherries were counted as the output of a single day at Paddock Road, the newest and the smallest of the canneries. The canneries are not confined to this locality. A few years ago, the British canning industry was non-existent. Two years ago, only five firms were engaged in fruit or vegetable canning. This season, 40 canneries employ 12,000 workers. These figures are not inclusive of pickers and sorters. The almost overnight success of British canning has stimulated activity in correlated industry. Welsh tin plate manufacturers already are profiting, and so highly are the prospects of fruit canning esteemed in Cardiff that the city fathers see in the industry a solution of the unemployment problem of youth, which has aggravated juvenile delinquency in Wales. The local government asks a grant of land for the growing of fruits and vegetables--the employment plan to be linked in some way with the canneries."

Butter  
Contest

National Butter Journal for September says: "Following its policy established five years ago of encouraging dairy products manufacturers to exhibit their products, the Dairy and Ice Cream Machinery and Supplies Association will again sponsor contests and exhibits of both butter and cheese at the annual Dairy Industries Exposition, this year to be held at Atlantic City, October 26 to 31. The Fifth International Butter Contest and Exhibit will bring to the front some of the finest tubs made in this country and Canada despite the fact that dry and hot summer months have been unfavorable to the general production of high score butter. Prof. A. W. Rudnich of the Iowa State College and secretary of the National Creamery Buttermakers' Association will be in direct charge of the contest and exhibit, and explain to visitors how score butter is produced....Students from land-grant colleges located in every section of the United States and Canada will participate in this contest...."

Cotton  
Acreage

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 12 says: "Farm and Ranch, for a period of years, has suggested the only logical remedy for surplus cotton acres. It has offered a program of balanced farming with livestock as one of the major projects, which, eventually, if followed, would make cotton an actual cash crop. This program is based on the principles of the best agricultural practices, many of which have been demonstrated as correct for more than a century. First, Farm and Ranch has continually reiterated that age-old truth that in all history there never has been a successful agriculture without livestock. Livestock can not be separated from the soil. In addition, Farm and Ranch has suggested that marginal and sub-marginal lands should not be in any crop when the chances are nine out of ten that cost of production will



not be made at any price. If lands unsuited to cotton had not been planted in 1931, the carry-over for the year would not have been increased....The Breeder-Feeder movement and the program advocated by the Southwestern Dairy Association will take care of much of this excess acreage provided lands unsuited to cotton are left in grass, or where the climate is suitable, planted to timber. Good pastures are the most profitable and least expensive acres of the farm."

Food Conser-  
vation in  
South

Manufacturers Record for September 17 says: "Referring to the editorial 'Another Side to the Picture,' in the Manufacturers Record of August 27, showing that the southern farmer is in better shape to meet low prices for his products than he was a year ago, a southern business man writes: 'We will go into next year with a lot of well-fed farmers. The farmer is in better condition now than any other business man. He eats at home in overalls and flannel shirt, but he has no rent, buys no fuel, and on his table are fried chicken, corn pone, 'lasses, taters, pot liquor, ham gravy, milk, butter and other good food....' In the matter of canning and preserving fruits, vegetables and meats, reports come from all over the South of the great increase in home processing of foods, while local canneries have been established in many communities. As illustrating the initiative being manifested, the Southern Public Utilities Magazine states that at Bishopville, S.C., a group of eight wideawake farmers did not wait for business men of the community to establish a food industry. They built a three-retort cannery with a capacity of 3,000 cans per day, primarily to provide canned foods for themselves and their tenants, but also to sell the surplus to the public. The Dallas Morning News in a recent survey of home canning activity in Texas presented figures indicating the possibility of 20,000,000 cans being sold for this activity....Other Southern States, notably Arkansas, reported more food preserving this summer than for the past several years combined, and in some sections of Louisiana double the amount of canning in any previous year has been done. The activity is notable also throughout the State of Missouri...."

Marginal  
Lands

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for September 12 says: "In the United States the Mississippi River is the only stream whose waters reach troublesome flood proportions. Much engineering skill and much money have been expended in controlling these floods, but nothing has been done to prevent them. A large part of the Mississippi Water Shed consists of treeless prairies. Much of the timber has been removed from the other parts without any replanting. As the timber continues to be removed, the trouble from floods will increase. The present time, when even the farmers realize that they are working too much land, would seem to be opportune for beginning the planting of trees. The chief objection to growing timber is that the land is taxed every year, while a generation passes before the crop can be harvested. But taxation is controlled by the States, and the State Legislatures in the Mississippi Valley are largely influenced by agricultural interests. The adjustment of taxes on forest land could surely be equitably determined. This is a matter which might well receive the attention of farmers' organizations. The worked land on the farms of the United States has increased twelve million acres during the last decade. Much of it is



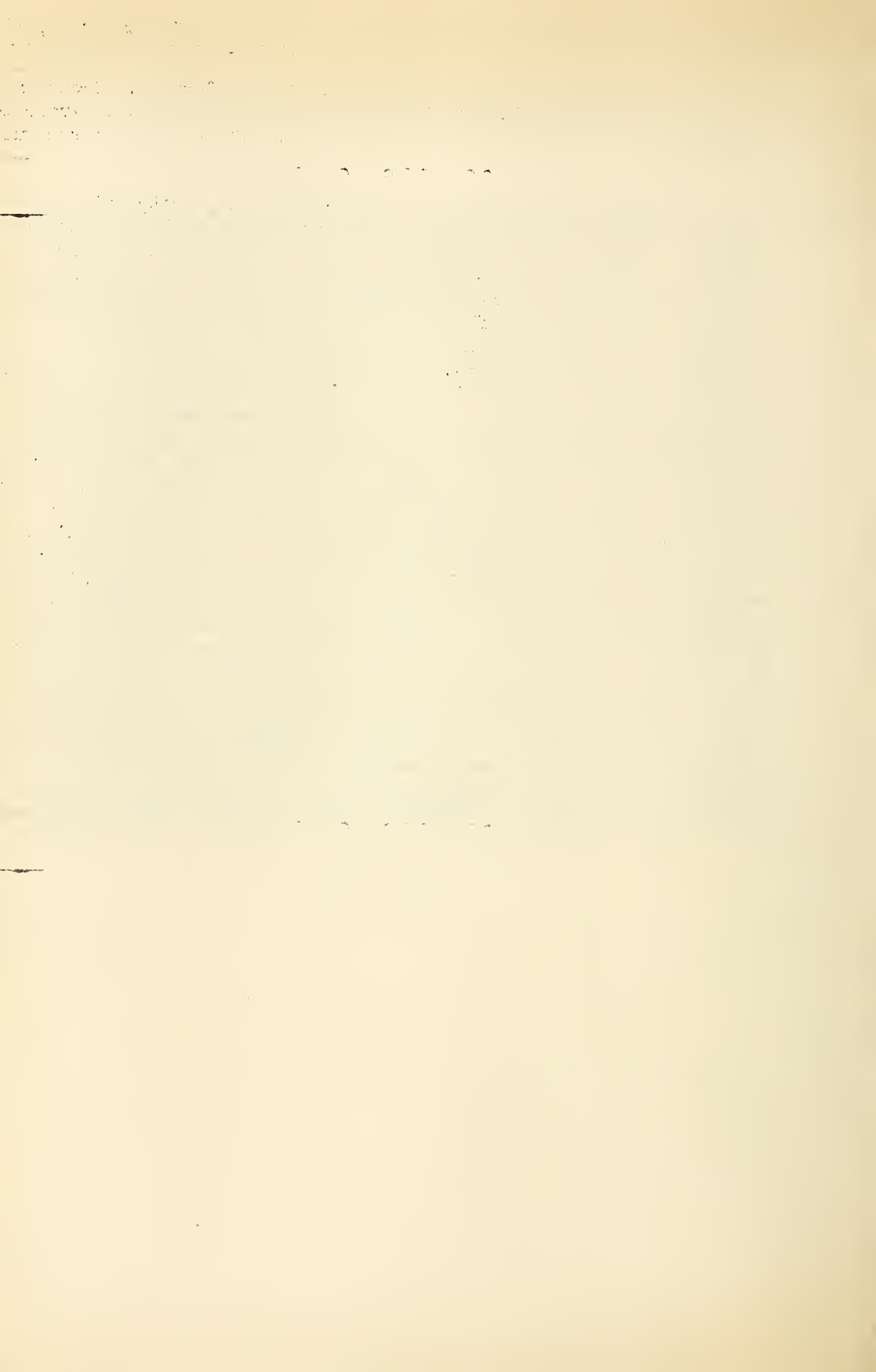


marginal land which returns little profit to the farmers. Twelve million acres in the Mississippi Water Shed might be planted in trees to the profit of the farmers, who would not find their cash returns much reduced."

Science and  
Industry

Nature (London) for August 29 contains a lengthy editorial on "Creative Science and Industry." This says in part: "In scientific research, quality counts supremely, but industry owes an incalculable debt to innumerable investigators engaged in scientific research directed by no other motive than the pursuit of knowledge. At the moment, our interest is centered chiefly on the discovery of electromagnetic induction by Faraday and its consequences--electrical industry and its ramifications of the present day. The dyestuffs industry is, of course, the classical example of the relation of scientific research to industry, and it is worth recalling that this industry owes much to Faraday's discovery of benzene. Chemical industry abounds in similar examples. The manufacture of synthetic drugs may be traced back to such purely scientific work as Kolbe's synthesis of salicylic acid, and its expansion has invariably been connected with external scientific work like Knorr's discovery of antipyrine, Ehrlich's salvarsan, Fournneau's 309, Kraut's aspirin, Molle and Kleist's veronal, the isolation and synthesis of adrenaline, Banting and Best's isolation of insulin, Kendall's preparation of thyroxin and its brilliant synthesis by Harington. Pasteur's scientific investigations on yeast prompted by a brewing difficulty led him to the discovery of the whole theory of fermentation, the existence and action of bacteria, thence to the pasteurization process, and finally to the discovery of the antitoxin of hydrophobia. These discoveries have not merely transformed the brewing, yeast, dairy, and cheese industries, but have also led to the rise of important new branches in the production of solvents such as acetone and butyl alcohol by fermentation. It would be difficult to measure the debt of either the fermentation industries or, indeed, of humanity to the scientific work of Pasteur, whose chance discoveries were so momentous because he was prepared...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

September 17.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$9.25; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.90 to \$5.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.35 to \$5.65; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.50 to \$5.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.75 to \$6.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$6.85.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $71\frac{1}{2}$  to  $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 51¢; St. Louis  $49\frac{1}{2}$  to 50¢; Kansas City  $44\frac{1}{2}$  to  $47\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City  $43\frac{1}{2}$  to  $44\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $45\frac{1}{2}$  to  $46\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 45¢ to  $45\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $45\frac{1}{2}$  to  $46\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 45¢; Kansas City 46 to 47¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago  $21\frac{1}{2}$  to 24¢; Minneapolis  $23\frac{1}{2}$  to  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 23¢; Kansas City 25 to 26¢.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 85¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; 85¢-88¢ f.o.b. Long Island sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.35 in the East; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Riverhead. Maine sacked Cobblers 80¢-90¢ in Boston; 50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1 carlot sales in Chicago; 75¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts sacked yellow onions \$2-\$2.15 per 100 pounds in city markets; \$1.75-\$1.80 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 50¢-\$1.75 per 50-pound sack in the Middle West. New York Domestic Round type cabbage \$12-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; few \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Round type \$1.50-\$1.60 bulk per 100 pounds in Kansas City. New York Wealthy apples, No.1,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket in eastern cities; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$4 per barrel in New York City and McIntosh \$4.25-\$4.50.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 1 point to 5.93¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.28¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 6.48¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 6.51¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 68

Section 1

September 19, 1931.

## RELIEF ORGAN- IZATION

Walter S. Gifford, national relief director, and Owen D. Young, chairman of his committee to mobilize relief funds, expressed confidence yesterday that local communities would be able to take care of their own unemployed next winter, but neither closed the door to Federal appropriations, according to the press to-day.

## SOUTH CAROLINA COTTON

A Columbia, S. C., dispatch September 18 says: "Enactment of a law prohibiting the planting of cotton in South Carolina in 1932 seemed assured last night. The Senate placed final approval on the measure and the House passed a similar measure on second reading. Rejection of the Long plan by Texas served only to spur the Palmetto legislators into approving the bills. The Senate sent its bill to the House by passing it on third reading, 21 to 13. After defeating a motion to kill the bill, 77 to 29, the House approved the measure in an oral vote with but a faint scattering of 'noes.' Under the terms of the measure it would be inoperative if less than seventy-five per cent of the cotton-growing belt is under such legislation. Should it wish, the legislature could repeal the prospective law at its regular session to begin in January."

## VEGETABLE TARIFF INQUIRY

The Tariff Commission will investigate the Smoot-Hawley duties on eight fresh vegetables and on pineapples, according to the press to-day. The commission will hold hearings on the nine schedules on the following dates: October 19, tomatoes; October 20, green peppers and green peas; October 21, snap and fresh lima beans and okra; October 22, eggplant and cucumbers; and October 23, fresh pineapples. In general the fresh vegetable rates were increased by the 1930 tariff act. The Senate resolutions call for the pepper, tomato, eggplant, cucumber, lima beans, okra and fresh pineapple investigations. The Mexican East Coast vegetable industry had urged a decrease in the snap bean duties.

## NATIONAL WOOL WEEK

National Wool Week will be held during the week starting November 9, it was decided yesterday at a meeting of a committee representing various branches of the woolen and woolen products trade at New York. Col. Charles F. H. Johnson, president of the Botany Worsted Mills, who was named as temporary chairman of the committee at a preliminary organization meeting in Washington last month, was unanimously chosen as permanent chairman of the committee that will direct the promotional campaign. In announcing the immediate plans of the wool week sponsors, Colonel Johnson said: "A meeting of the general committee, comprising approximately 100 representatives of wool growers, dealers, woolen product manufacturers, cutters-up and retailers will be held on Tuesday, September 29, in New York. In the meantime the executive committee will evolve, with expert assistance, a plan of promotion and exploitation through which we hope to spread the style and merchandising message of wools to every corner of the country...."(Press, Sept. 19.)



## Section 2

Cotton                    An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for September 15-30 .  
Acreage                says: "We suggest that the legislature of every cotton State growing  
Reduction            as much as 500,000 bales of cotton, by special sessions of their leg-  
islatures if necessary, enact legislation or join in asking Congress  
for uniform legislation by taxation or otherwise, reducing the acreage  
planted to cotton in 1932, 33 1/3 per cent or one-third from that of  
1931 and that, if found necessary, the acreage in 1933 be reduced 15  
per cent below that planted in 1932. This will be found less destructiv  
and expensive than to plant no cotton in 1932 or to reduce the acreage  
one-half, and it will give all the reduction necessary. As previously  
stated, no effective handling of the existing surplus of American cotton  
in a way that will give a substantial rise in price, is possible unless  
there is a positive assurance that the acreage planted to cotton in 1932  
will be reduced much more than has ever been done by the voluntary actio  
of farmers...."

Food Costs            "According to the New York Trust Co., our national food bill  
amounts to about \$22,000,000,000 annually. Hotels and restaurants ac-  
count for about 26% of the consumption; hospitals, clubs and other in-  
stitutions, 3%; and family homes for the remaining 71%. Of the average  
dollar spent for food, 38 cents goes for meat, poultry, fish and eggs;  
20 cents for dairy products; 17 cents for grain and cereals; 15 cents  
for fruit and vegetables; 5 cents for sugar; and 5 cents for sundries.  
The raising, manufacturing and distribution of food still remains our  
largest single industry, with the automobile running a close second."  
(Wall St. Journal, Sept. 16.)

Milk Con-            An editorial in The Rural New-Yorker for September 19 says:  
sumption            "Reports from Switzerland are that soldiers on long marches have been  
In Switzer-        encouraged this year to use milk. The commander said the experiment  
land                had been highly successful. The soldiers used the milk freely. He  
said the men who drank it were not ill, and did not fall out of the  
ranks in the hot-weather test as they formerly did, when they drank  
water, lemonade and beer. When the writer was a young man he frequently  
worked in the harvest fields with sturdy mature men who drank cider,  
beer and applejack. Before the day was over oftentimes the men taking  
these stimulating beverages were forced to the shade--'bushed.' Our  
drink was buttermilk, diluted with a little water. The boys and men  
who confined themselves to this liquid were always good to the end of  
the day. The experience has been repeated in many places as well as in  
the Swiss mountains."

Prices                The downward movement of wholesale prices which was halted in  
July took a slight upward trend in August, as shown by the index number  
as computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department  
of Labor. This index number, which includes 550 commodities or price  
series weighted according to the importance of each article and based  
on the average prices for 1926 as 100.0, was 70.2 for August, an in-  
crease of three-tenths of 1 per cent over July having an index of 70.0.  
When compared with August, 1930, with an index of 84.0, a decrease of  
16 1/3 per cent has been recorded. Farm products as a group averaged  
slightly more than 2 per cent below July prices. Decided decreases



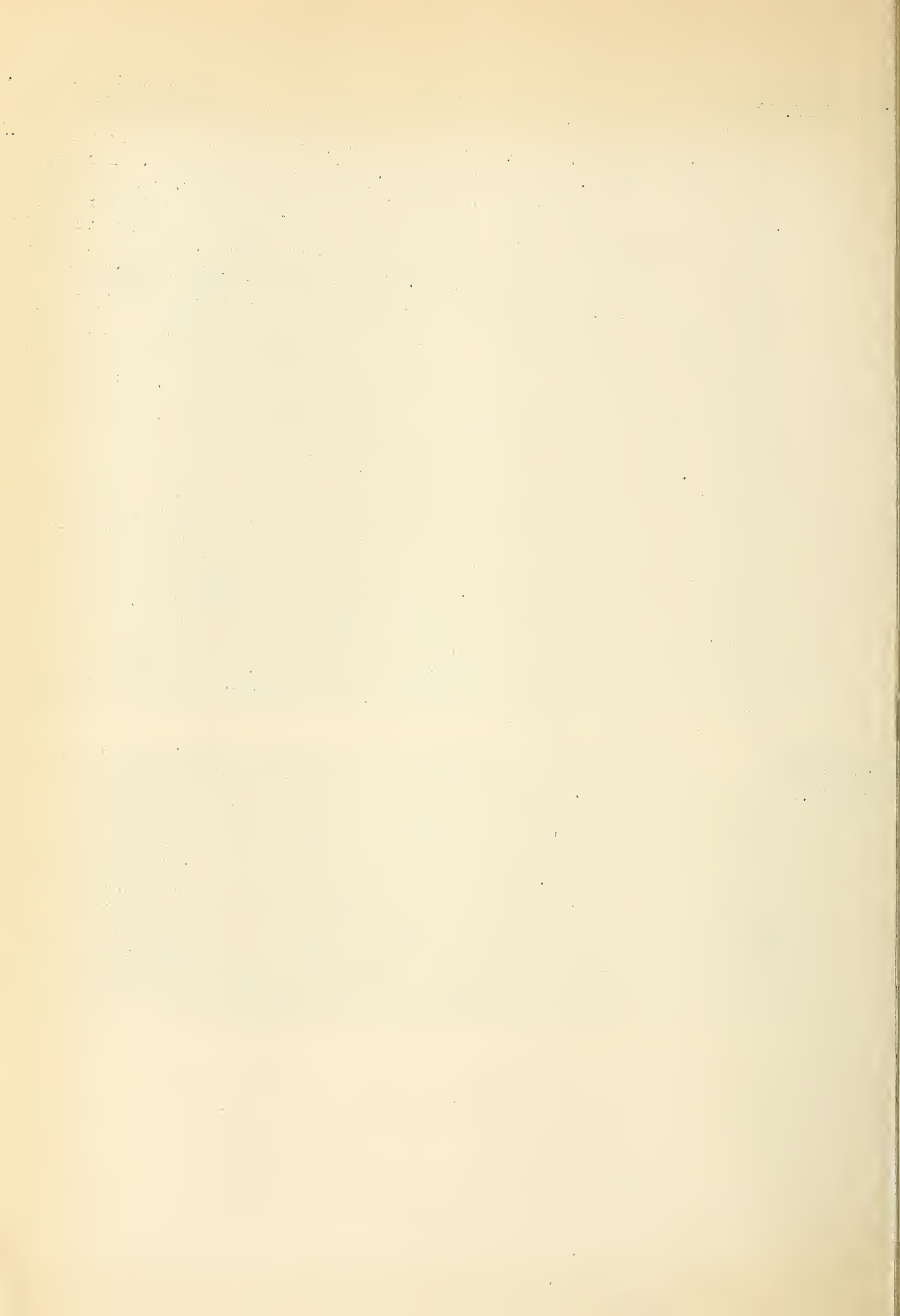


took place in corn, oats, cotton, and hay, with smaller declines recorded for rye, sheep, lambs, light hogs, onions, and potatoes. Increases were shown for calves, cows, steers, live poultry, eggs, lemons, oranges, and beans. Price decreases among foods were reported for butter, cheese fresh and cured beef, hams, dressed veal, and dressed poultry, resulting in a net increase of nearly 1 per cent for the group as a whole. Food articles averaging lower than in July were bacon, coffee, smoked and canned salmon, mutton, cured pork, condensed and evaporated milk, lard, and rice. Hides and skins moved downward during the month, while leather showed an upward trend. No change was reported for boots and shoes and other leather products. The group as a whole decreased about three-fourths of 1 per cent. In the group of textile products, cotton goods and other textiles showed further price decreases, while silk and rayon and woolen and worsted goods showed little or no change in average prices. The group as a whole decreased nearly 2 per cent within the month. A marked decrease took place in the prices of cattle feed, rubber, and other miscellaneous articles during the month. No change was reported for paper and pulp and automobile tires. The group of miscellaneous commodities as a whole decreased 4 per cent. Raw materials as a whole averaged lower than in July as did also semimanufactured articles. Finished products, on the other hand, advanced from July to August. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products, and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, the August prices showed an upward movement from those for the month before. Between July and August increases took place in 94 instances, decreases in 186 instances, while in 270 instances no change occurred.

Reforestation  
in Wis-  
consin

John Meyer, Field Director of the George W. Mead Paper Institute, writing on a new reforestation project started by a Wisconsin paper firm in Editor & Publisher for September 5, says: "A scientific experiment in reforestation of spruce for pulp and paper, started recently on a farm at Biron, near Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., is expected to develop about 1,250,000 trees which will be ready for field planting in the fall of 1933. The survivors will mature about 1968. Every precaution is being taken to secure an exceptionally large production of good trees in comparison to the original planting. The experiments are under direction of Stanton W. Mead of Wisconsin Rapids, production executive of the consolidated paper mills in Wisconsin. E. B. Hurst, forester, is in charge of the nurseries and planting...."

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 69

Section 1

September 21, 1931.

## BRITAIN ABANDONS GOLD BASIS

A London dispatch to-day states that in one of its most serious financial crises since the World War, Great Britain went off the gold standard last night and the Bank of England announced the raise of its discount rate from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 per cent. The report says: "Announcement of this drastic action to halt the outflow of gold followed a special session of the cabinet, which unanimously decided that only immediate suspension of the gold redemption act would prevent a currency catastrophe...."

A New York dispatch to-day says: "Great Britain's tumble from the gold standard, in the suspension of the gold redemption act, is expected by financial authorities in New York to cause a degree of inflation in England, and, at least temporarily, some stimulation of business activity. Leading Wall Street bankers conferred informally on the British monetary crisis last evening, and several who commented on the situation to the press expressed the opinion that possible repercussions in the United States scarcely demanded emergency measures...."

The New York Times yesterday said: "The Canadian dollar fell yesterday to a quotation of 98¢ in the foreign exchange market here, making the lowest level since November 18, 1929. This is far below the gold transfer point, which is generally placed at about five thirty-seconds of 1 per cent discount...."

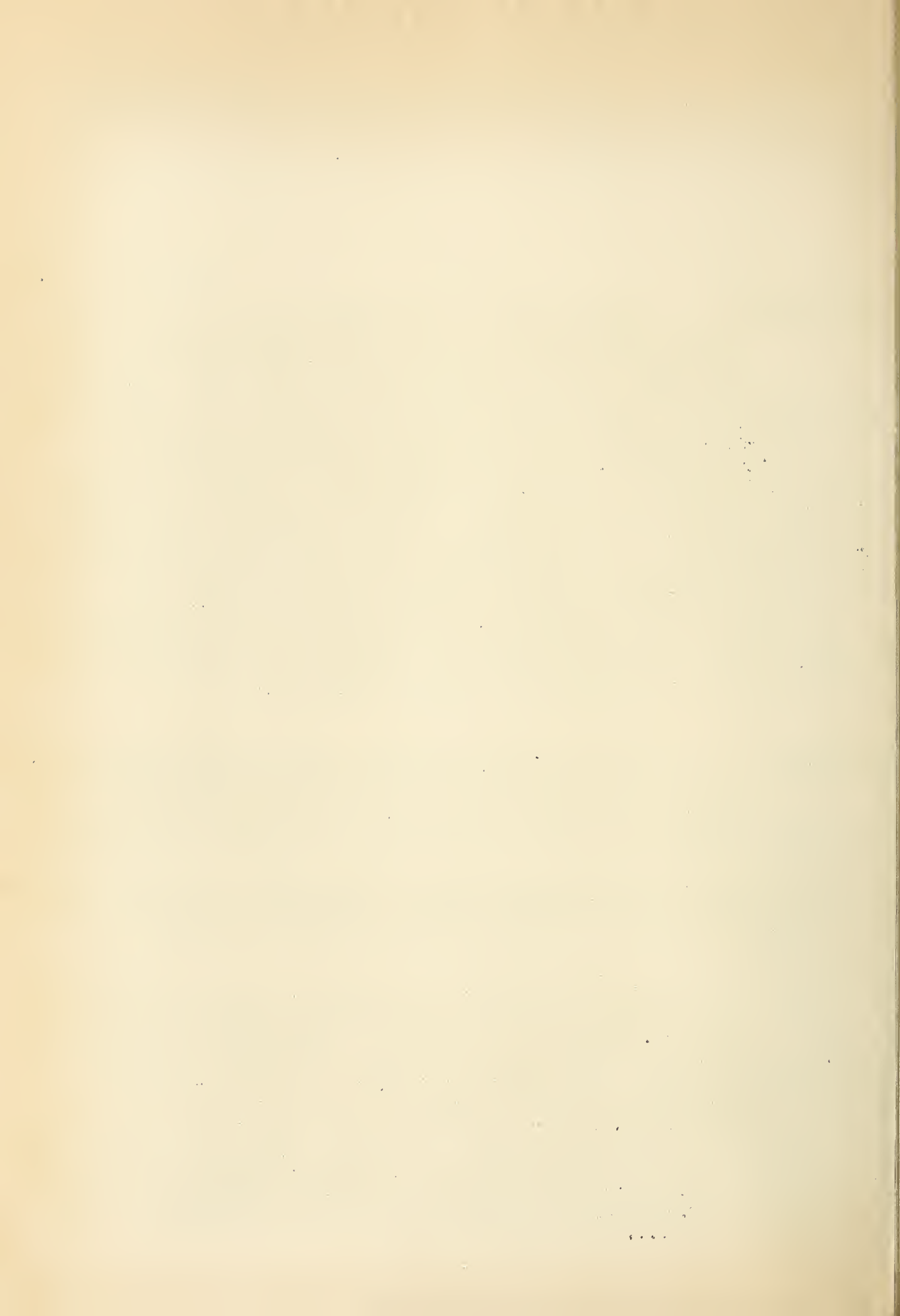
## SOUTHERN COTTON PLANS

A Columbia, S.C., dispatch to-day states that J.S. Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton Association, announced yesterday that the southwide convention of cotton farmers scheduled to be held in New Orleans October 1 to 3, has been postponed until November 16 and 17. The convention was called to complete plans for cotton acreage reduction next year.

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day says: "Passage early this week of a compromise cotton restriction bill, limiting 1932 Texas planting to 30 per cent of this year's acreage, was freely predicted yesterday by legislative leaders."

## FEDERAL AID

The Federal construction program to reduce unemployment will have reached by the end of this fiscal year, next June 30, a grand total of \$1,613,481,000, according to a White House statement issued yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Of this amount, \$452,301,000 was expended in the calendar year 1930, the estimate for the calendar year 1931 is \$787,587,000, while the expenditures set for the first six months of 1932 are put at \$373,593,000....The rate of expenditure for the first half of 1932, if continued through the second six months of that year, will mean, Mr. Joslin, secretary to President Hoover, said, a total for the calendar year 1932 of \$746,186,000. Omitting drought relief, the total expenditures to relieve unemployment will total on next June 30, \$1,550,000,000, the figures being those of the President's Unemployment Relief Committee...."



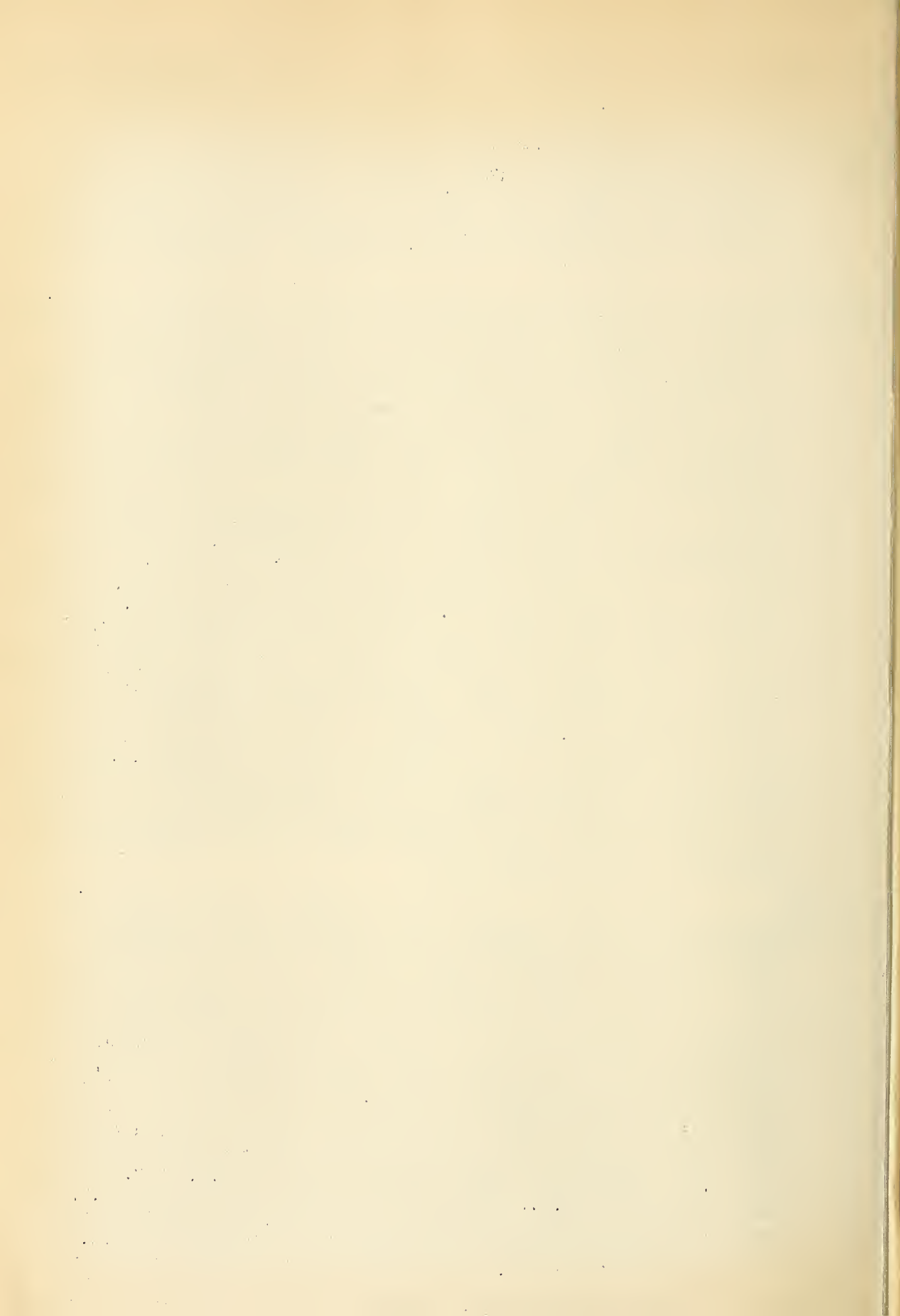


## Section 2

California            A San Francisco dispatch states that the first cold storage  
Grapes by            shipment of California grapes by water is now on the way to New York  
Water                on the Panama Pacific liner Virginia as an experiment. The cargo of  
8,000 lugs of fancy table fruit is in a storage room in which a temperature of 33 to 37 degrees will be maintained. The Virginia also has aboard 630,000 pounds, about thirty carloads, of California almonds.

Capital and            An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for September 18 says:  
Employment            "Reminder that the commodity price level lies at the root of the world's present difficulty is furnished by the monthly figures published in France and England covering August. In both cases wholesale prices are reported at the lowest since the decline began. In England the index has fallen below the prewar level, being 99.5 per cent of the 1913 figure. In France, correcting for the change in the value of the franc, prices are about at the 1914 level. During August prices declined in England more sharply than in any month of 1931. It is this simple fact that pushes the wage question to the front of the stage, and keeps it there. It is this fact which has brought enterprise to the point where it can with difficulty get a new dollar for an old one, and is faced with the question how long it can continue to operate. Whether we like it or not, that question imperatively calls for answer. It is, in fact, a choice between reduced money wages and no wages at all--unless prices can be raised or unless volume of business can be increased. The effect of declining prices is always to restrict business; it is a species of vicious circle in which we are caught. To break out of it there is needed a belief that the decline has stopped; in other words, some confidence in the stability of the price level....No one expects capital to continue to operate at a loss. What seems to be in controversy--at least in this country--is whether capital is entitled to any profit at all if, to get it, present money wages must be reduced. Whatever the rights and wrongs of that controversy may be, it is certain that failing a change in prices money wages will come down or unemployment will continue. Much as we might like to have it otherwise, it is hopeless to expect anything else."

Chinese Co-            Abstracts from a paper by Y. S. Djang, entitled "Credit Co-  
operatives            operatives in 1,000 Villages," read before The Chinese Social & Political Science Association May 1, 1931, are given in The Chinese Social and Political Science Review for July. The author says in part: "It is a fact that although cooperation has been transplanted, as if it were, from Germany into 1,000 or more villages in North China, during the past ten years, little is yet known to the public. Convinced in the common saying that 'an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure,' the China International Famine Relief Commission, set out to employ its resources in promoting enterprises that tend to aid agriculture. Anything that helps the farmer is, to the C.I.F.R.C., a famine prevention project....The credit societies sponsored by the C.I.F.R.C. take the pattern after those originated by F. W. Raiffeisen of Germany since 1854....With the movement still in its infancy, the C.I.F.R.C. had to finance it alone. It is only recently that a limited amount of commercial capital had been made available for investment through the co-ops. So to this episode much interest and importance must be attached



as the beginning of an era when, eventually, agriculture may utilize the resources of the bank, much in the same way as other industries and trading businesses. There are 948 co-ops in this province (Hopei) and about two dozens others in Shantung. Associated as members in these societies are about 26,000 farmers who have together invested in their co-ops about \$65,000, averaging less than \$3 per member. Two hundred seventy-seven of these unit societies have been found to be thoroughly competent to function and therefore have been recognized by the C.I.F.R.C. To these co-ops, the C.I.F.R.C. has hitherto advanced an aggregate sum of a little over \$200,000 in 437 different loans. The members borrow from the society and the society borrows from the C.I.F.R.C. Approximately 33% of the money is used for raising the season's crop, such as seeds, fodder, labor, etc., 27% for capital outlay, such as implements and farm animals, 22% goes to help the borrowing farmer to retire his debts carrying high interest and 16% is used to finance small trade, village industry, and to meet other personal needs. Thus far, the farmers are yet unable to afford permanent improvements, only 2% of the money at their disposal being used for this purpose. All advances made by the C.I.F.R.C. to the co-ops are interest bearing, at an average rate of less than 7%. There is no security except a pledge to pay on the agreed due date. So far, of the \$200,000 thus far advanced, not a cent is lost. The borrowing co-ops have been able to repay as agreed. There is no 'bad debt.'..."

#### Food Prices

Retail food prices in 51 cities of the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed an average increase of slightly over one-half of 1 per cent on August 15, 1931, when compared with July 15, 1931, and an average decrease of about 16 2/3 per cent since August 15, 1930. The bureau's weighted index numbers, with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 143.7 for August 15, 1930, 119.0 for July 15, 1931, and 119.7 for August 15, 1931. During the month from July 15, 1931, to August 15, 1931, 12 articles on which monthly prices were secured increased as follows: Strictly fresh eggs, 12 per cent; butter, 9 per cent; cabbage, 8 per cent; pork chops, 5 per cent; sugar, 2 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, cheese, pork and beans, and tea, 1 per cent; and hens less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Twenty-one articles decreased: Onions, 12 per cent; flour, and bananas, 6 per cent; evaporated milk, and potatoes, 4 per cent; oleomargarine, lard, and oranges, 2 per cent; plate beef, bacon sliced, leg of lamb, canned red salmon, bread, rolled oats, macaroni, navy beans, canned tomatoes, prunes, and raisins, 1 per cent; and wheat cereal, and coffee, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. The following 9 articles showed no change: Chuck roast, sliced ham, fresh milk, vegetable lard substitute, corn meal, corn flakes, rice, canned corn, and canned peas. During the month from July 15, 1931, to August 15, 1931, 36 of the 51 cities from which prices were received showed increases in the average cost of food. For the year period August 15, 1930, to August 15, 1931, all of the 51 cities showed decreases.







Home Building Despite a total August contract loss of 33 per cent over August, 1930. F. W. Dodge Corporation reports that four of thirteen districts in the thirty-seven States east of the Rockies showed construction contracts larger than in that month a year ago. Upstate New York, the Central Northwest district, the New Orleans territory and the State of Texas all showed advances over August, 1930.

Texas Farm Loans The loans to farmers' cooperative marketing associations and discounts of farmers' notes for local lending institutions by the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Houston, Tex., amounted to nearly \$22,000,000 in the first six months this year, against \$10,351,000 in the same period last year, according to Charles Dunn, fiscal agent for the twelve Federal Intermediate Credit Banks. The total discount business done in the first half year at Houston amounted to \$12,000,000, compared with about \$10,000,000 for the first half of 1930. Loans to farmers' cooperatives on warehouse receipts in the first half amounted to \$9,958,000 this year, against \$419,000 last year. (Press, Sept. 14.)

Wheat Holiday Proposal An editorial in The Dakota Farmer for September 15 says: "How would you like a 'wheat holiday?' A lay-off from wheat growing is being favorably contemplated by Pacific growers. The engrossing appeal is that those who participate may make a profit while taking a 'holiday' from farming. The 'holiday' will not materialize unless the Federal Farm Board and the Stabilization Corporation enter enthusiastically into the plan. The plan originated in the State of Washington among farmers, grain men and agricultural leaders. These groups propose that farmers plant no wheat next year but buy the Farm Board's surplus and consider that as crop, paying the board at the time the wheat is sold. The contention of the originators is that this will create a shortage, because of the decreased acreage next year, increase the price and realize a nice profit for the farmers. Among the arguments advanced against the plan are that it would bring an unfair burden on the farmers and would plunge them into speculation; farmers with little funds would be unable to buy and carry a futures contract; no suggestion has been made as to what should be raised instead of wheat, and opportunities to earn premiums on northwest spring wheat would be sacrificed. While some may doubt the advisability of the plan everyone will admit that it is startling, simple and unique...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 18.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$9.25; vealers, good and choice \$2 to \$9.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.35 to \$5.65; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.50 to \$5.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.75 to \$6.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4.25 to \$6.85.

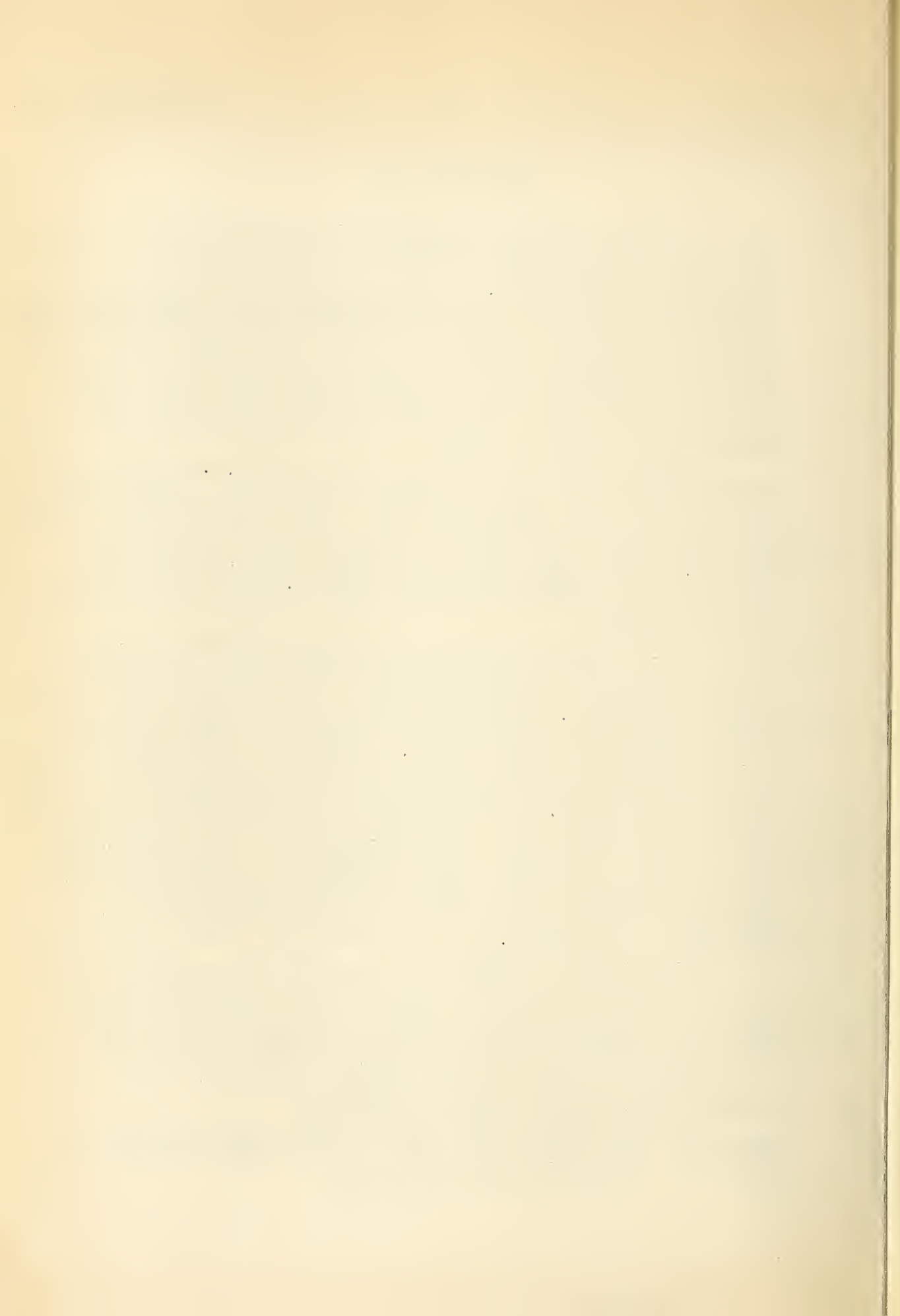
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67  $7\frac{7}{8}\phi$  to 71  $7\frac{7}{8}\phi$ ; No.2 red winter, Chicago 50 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 51 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; St. Louis 48 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 49 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Kansas City 45 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 43 $\phi$  to 44 $\phi$ ; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 44 $\phi$  to 44 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ ; Minneapolis 41 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 42 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Kansas City 45 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  to 46 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.3 yellow, Chicago 45 $\phi$ ; Minneapolis 45 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 46 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Kansas City 45 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$  to 46 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 22 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 24 $\phi$ ; Minneapolis 23 $\phi$  to 24 $\phi$ ; St. Louis 23 $\phi$ ; Kansas City 25 $\phi$  to 26 $\phi$  (Nom.)

Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes brought 80 $\phi$ -\$1.25 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 50 $\phi$ -55 $\phi$  f.o.b. Presque Isle. New Jersey Cobblers 85 $\phi$ -\$1.25 in city markets; 85 $\phi$  f.o.b. New Jersey points. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 90 $\phi$ -\$1.05 carlot sales in Chicago; 75 $\phi$  f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts sacked yellow onions closed at \$1.75-\$2.15 per 100 pounds in the East; \$1.80 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 50 $\phi$ -\$1 per 50-pound sack in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.75 per stave barrel in city markets; few \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. Tennessee Nancy Halls 50 $\phi$ -75 $\phi$  per bushel basket in the Middle West. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$16-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin stock \$25 in St. Louis. New York Wealthy apples, U.S. No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, 75 $\phi$ -\$1 per bushel basket in the East; 70 $\phi$ -75 $\phi$  f.o.b. Rochester. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$4 per barrel in New York City; \$3.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 14 points to 5.79 $\phi$  per pound. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 10.19 $\phi$ . October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 6.34 $\phi$ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 6.33 $\phi$ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33 $\phi$ ; 91 score, 31 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; 90 score, 29 $\phi$ .

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17 $\phi$ ; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$ ; Young Americas, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 17 $\phi$ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





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Vol. XLII, No. 70

Section 1

September 22, 1931.

## TEXAS COTTON

An Austin dispatch to-day states that the Texas Legislature enacted a cotton acreage reduction bill yesterday designed to effect a 50 per cent curtailment in the State's cotton plantings in 1932 and 1933. The bill needed only the signature of Gov. Ross S. Sterling to become a law and that was regarded as assured. The report says: "Each farmer would be prohibited from devoting to cotton next year more than 30 per cent of the land he cultivated in all crops this year. The same percentage basis would apply in 1933 with the additional provision that no 1932 cotton land could be planted to cotton in 1933. After 1933 there would be no percentage limit, but no land could be planted to cotton in successive years...."

## SOUTH CAROLINA TOBACCO

A Columbia, S.C., dispatch September 21 states that the House of the South Carolina General Assembly September 19 received a bill designed to reduce the tobacco acreage in 1932. It would restrict acreage in tobacco to "two acres for each horse, mule or ox used for agricultural purposes." Representative Huggins, who introduced the bill, estimated it would reduce acreage by "at least two thirds."

## CATTLE TESTING DIFFICULTIES

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Des Moines, Iowa, says: "Orders were issued last night by Adj. Gen. W. H. Bailey for the mobilization of between 1,500 and 2,000 troops, who will be sent to Cedar County where farmers yesterday again resisted veterinarians' attempts to test cattle. The Adjutant General's action came after a sheriff's force of 65 men which yesterday was prevented by a band of more than 200 aroused farmers from testing cattle at the farm of Jacob Lenker, near Tipton, Iowa. ...The fight of the objectors against the tuberculin test has flared intermittently since the middle of last March. At that time the objectors refused to permit the testing of cattle at the E. C. Mitchell farm and on several occasions gathered in force to prevent tests from being made...."

## BRITISH FINANCES AND STOCK MARKETS

New York financial markets stemmed the tide of unrest following the British financial crisis yesterday and the market surged vigorously, showing substantial gains in many issues, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The British shock went around the world, however, and resulted in the closing of stock exchanges in many countries and nervous conditions in others. The British Parliament last night rushed through the government's bill intended to meet the situation and to suspend the gold standard. The London Stock Exchange remained closed and it was announced it would continue closed to-day. Philip Snowden, British chancellor of the exchequer, made a radio appeal to the nation last night to stand by the pound sterling and assured that the extent of its fall, would be limited...."



## Section 2

## EBritish

Sugar Aid  
Act

The Journal of The Ministry of Agriculture for September says: "This act (British Sugar Industry Assistance Act) received the Royal Assent on July 31, 1931. It provides for payment of a special advance of 1s. 3d. per cwt. on 300,000 cwt. of sugar per factory manufactured during the 1931-32 season from beet grown in Great Britain. Twelve factories are concerned. The special advance is made conditional on a firm price being offered by the factories to the growers, that would give the latter the full equivalent of the advance. The advance at the full rate of 1s. 3d. is to be made only when the average price of raw cane-sugar, c.i.f. United Kingdom, prompt shipment, in the two weeks preceding the week in which the sugar is manufactured, is 6s. 6d. a cwt. or below, the rate being diminished by one penny for each penny by which the price of raw cane-sugar rises above 6s. 6d. up to 7s. 9d., when payment ceases. The advance is repayable under certain conditions by deduction from the subsidy payments that will fall due in the two succeeding manufacturing seasons...."

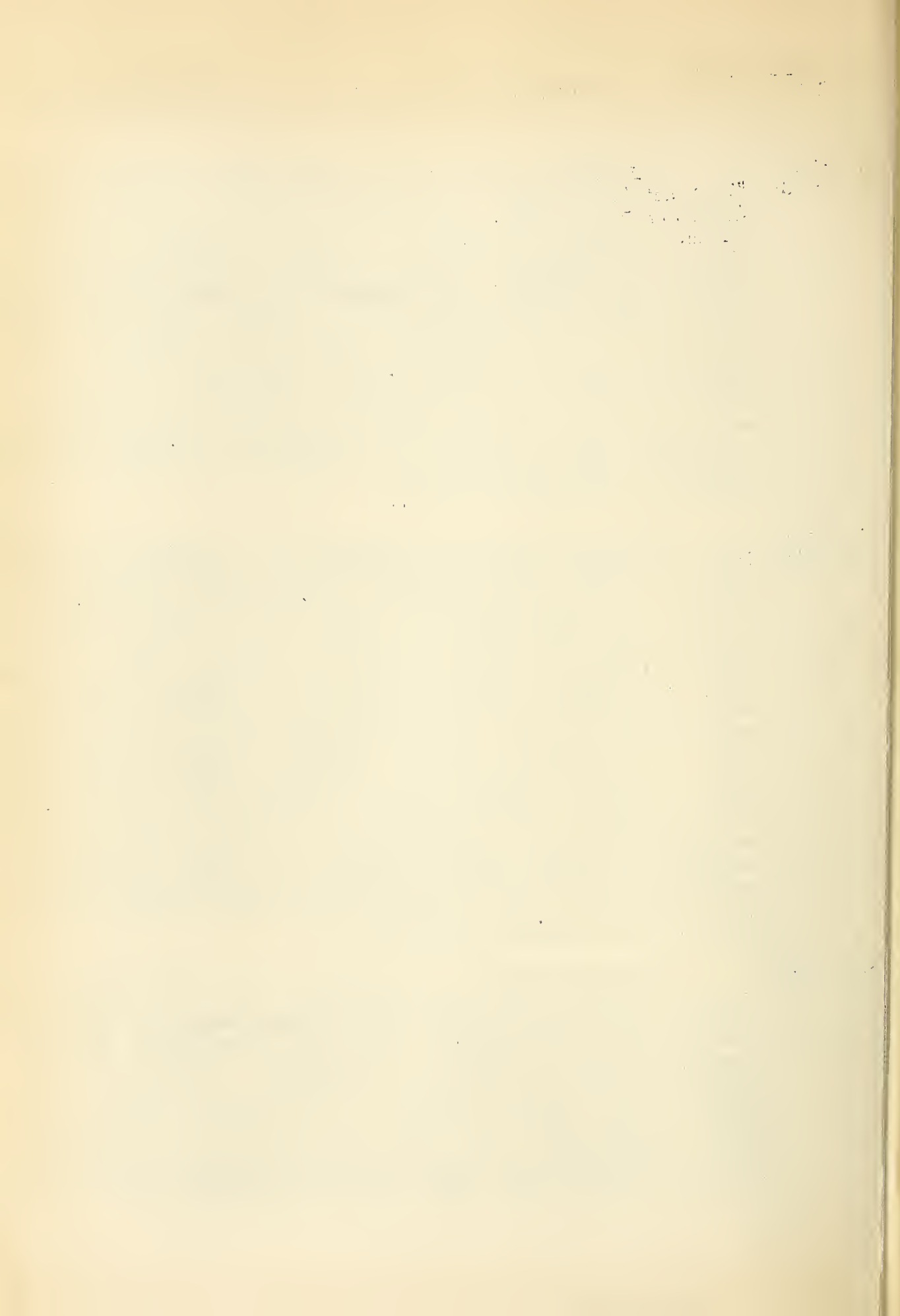
Business  
and Prices

"Business Does not Need Rising Prices" is the title of a comprehensive statistical study by C. H. Whelden, jr., in Barron's for September 21. In this the author attempts to show that price changes do not precede, but follow, upward and downward changes in business activity. He says in part: "The evidence here offered on the relation of prices to business activity is by no means complete. Only a small part of the complexly interrelated field of business and commodity prices is considered. The evidence is sufficient, however, to illustrate certain important principles. It is also sufficient to show that while there are some elements of truth in the common opinion that poor business is produced by falling prices and that to produce good business we must have rising prices, this common opinion is for the most part mistaken. In the present situation of business, rising commodity prices would certainly serve as a stimulus, but it appears in the evidence presented here that the essentials for good business, as far as the effects of prices are concerned, are simply a general stability in the level of prices and a proper adjustment in the relative positions of different sets of prices. It appears, moreover, that business may be expected to improve while prices are still declining cyclically...."

## Dahlia Show

The Florists Exchange for September 19 says: "New varieties not hitherto shown as well as championship blooms of the older standard sorts will both contribute interest to the 17th annual Dahlia and Fall Flower Show to be held in New York City, Sept. 22 to 25 inclusive. According to reports received from Sec'y W. J. Rathgeber of the American Dahlia Society, by which this exhibition will be held, it will be one of the finest yet seen. Weather conditions over the territory from which the entries are recruited appear to have been ideal for the development of highest quality blooms. Among the expected guests will be a number of European visitors who have stayed over since the Atlantic City Pageant especially to witness this older and well established show."







## New England

## Apple Industry

An editorial in New England Homestead for September 19 says: "Fruit growers are vitally interested in selling this year's crop to the best advantage. With this in mind, a study of some of the market reports has been made and the following preliminary information obtained by the Rhode Island College. Markets do not act the same each year, and so there is no guarantee that the average of four seasons which has been taken will give a correct idea of this year's market actions. However, the past tendency should be far better as a guide than nothing. McIntosh, of the larger sizes sell most readily and at high prices early in the season....Throughout the season the 3 inch Baldwin has brought a premium. At the beginning of the season the very large oversized apples can usually be sold to the best advantage. Very late in the season apples of the 2½ inch size which could hardly be sold in the fall will bring a substantial price. The fact that the large apples seldom keep well is another reason for selling them out early. The 3 inch Baldwin is always in demand and an effort to produce that size should pay. Last year a demand for carefully sized and graded fruit was made and much of our own fruit would not pass inspection. This fact should be ample stimulus for more attention to packing and grading. Once out-of-state apples satisfactorily meet a buyer's needs, that market is very difficult to recover. Growers must be able to meet the competition of outsiders in order to hold what is probably the best apple market in the East for themselves."

## Radio in Education

Nature (London) for September 5 says: "It has become platitudinous to talk of the educational possibilities of broadcasting. Everyone knows that the possibilities are there; but how many realize the machinery which the British Broadcasting Corporation has assembled in order that those possibilities may be realized? That machinery, sensitive to new impulses, and subject always to any alterations which will bring better results, ought to be better known. Briefly, two councils are responsible for what are vaguely known as 'talks': the Central Council for Broadcast Adult Education and the Central Council for School Broadcasting. For our present purpose we refer only to the former, but each council is composed of every kind of educational interest, and is divided into committees to which special tasks are assigned. For example, the programs and publications sub-committee meets very frequently and deals with the important, difficult, and delicate task of planning talks and securing speakers who are not only expert in their subjects but who can speak in language of common currency."

## Rayon from Cotton Stalks

Peter A. Carnichael is the author of a comprehensive article in Scientific American for October in which he describes experiments in the use of cotton stalks as a source of rayon. He says by way of preface: "In a series of experiments directed by the University of North Carolina the past year, and still in progress, it has been found that the entire cotton plant is capable of utilization in the manufacture of rayon. Lint cotton is a highly desirable source of cellulose, the basic material from which rayon is produced, but because of its cost, the use of it in the rayon industry at present is comparatively slight. The North Carolina experiments, however, give promise of an output of cellulose costing only about one twentieth of what it now costs to supply that material from the lint. The successful application of the method

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followed in these experiments, which are now well advanced and which have yielded results believed to be of great importance, would revolutionize the cotton-growing industry...."

#### Tea Growing

An editorial in The Miami Herald for September 16 says: "It is estimated that the people of this country send more than \$40,000,000 abroad, every year, for tea. And yet experiments carried on for years in the Gulf States, notably South Carolina, have proven that tea of the best quality can be produced in this country and by the use of machinery may be grown and prepared for market in competition with the cheap labor of China, or any other country that now furnishes the world with the popular herb. Tea has been grown under the supervision of the United States Department of Agriculture since the year 1858. It has been raised to some extent as a commercial product in South Carolina and other of the Gulf States. In view of the fact that the South seems now to be waking up to the necessity for diversified farming, tea might, possibly, be an additional profitable crop to raise....In the State of Louisiana operations have already been commenced preparing for the cultivation of the tea plant on a large scale, and there is said to be no reason why the plant can not be grown, successfully and profitably, in all of the States bordering on the Gulf of Mexico...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 21.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 66 to 70¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 47½ to 48¢; Kansas City 43 to 44¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 49¼ to 50¢; Kansas City 40½ to 41½¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 41¾ to 42¼¢; Minneapolis 39½ to 40½¢; Kansas City 44 to 44½¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 42 to 42½¢; Minneapolis 43½ to 44½¢; St. Louis 42¢; Kansas City 44½ to 45¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 20¾ to 23¼¢; Minneapolis 23 1/8 to 23 5/8¢; St. Louis 22¢; Kansas City 25½¢.

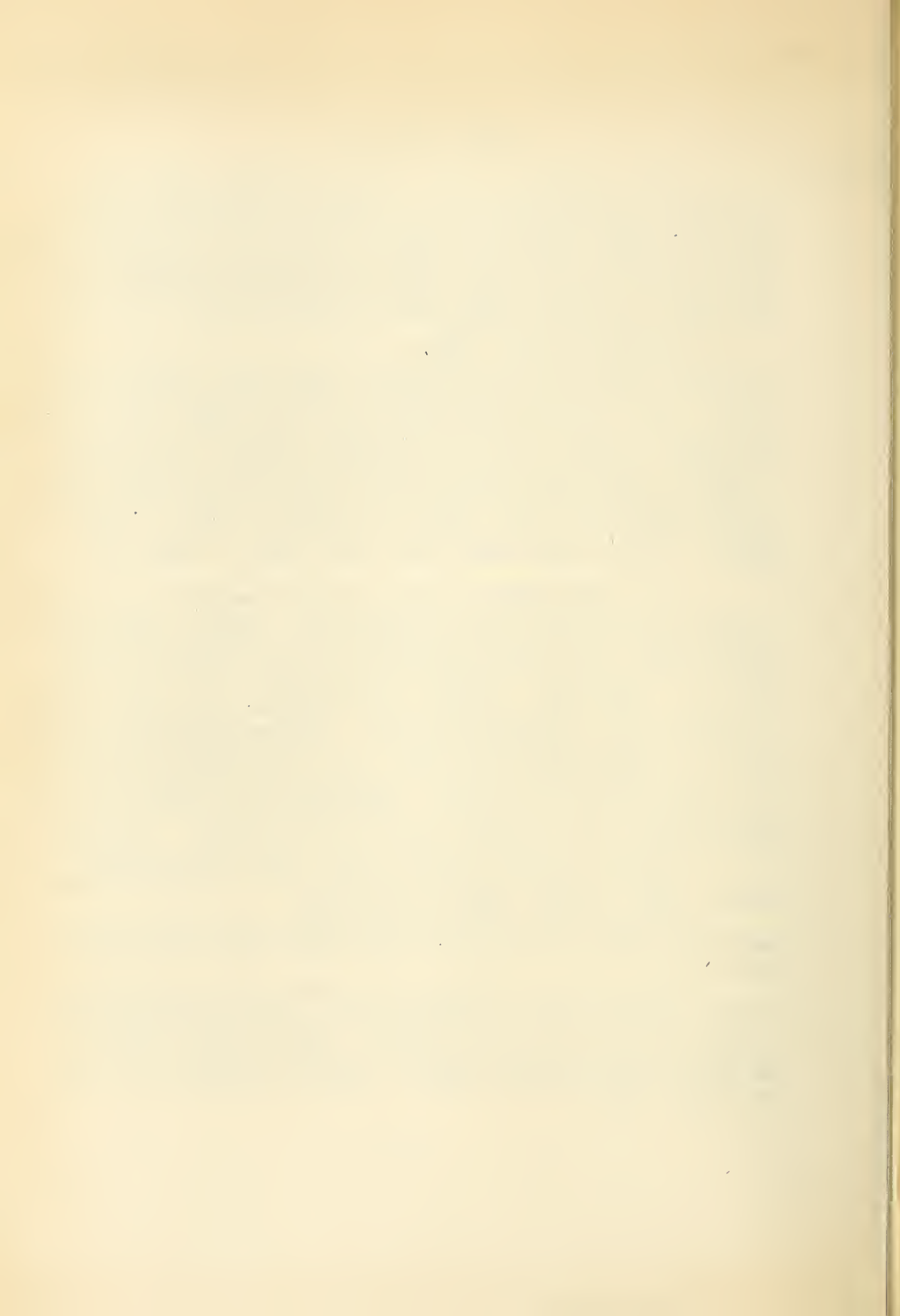
Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.75; heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.25; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$5.75; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.65 to \$5.35 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.65.

Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes brought 80¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; 50¢-55¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 80¢-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Domestic Round type cabbage \$14-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin stock \$15-\$18 in St. Louis. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.85 per stave barrel in eastern cities; \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Tennessee Nancy Halls 50¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York and Massachusetts sacked yellow onions \$1.75-\$1.90 per 100 pounds in Philadelphia; \$1.75-\$1.80 f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern stock, medium size, 75¢-\$1 per 50-pound sack in Chicago. New York Wealthy apples 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket in city markets; 70¢-75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Wealthys 60¢-75¢ in Chicago; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 31½¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15½ to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16½ to 16¾¢; Young Americas, 16¾ to 17¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 6 points to 5.58¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 10.02¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 9 points to 6.10¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 6.09¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 71

Section 1

September 23, 1931.

## TEXAS COTTON LEGISLATION

An Austin dispatch to-day says: "Texas led the way for the South last night in cotton curtailment with a new acreage reduction law designed to bring farmers relief from overproduction and low prices. Gov. Ross S. Sterling placed his signature on the measure restricting cotton planting in 1932 and 1933 to 30 per cent of the Texas land now in cultivation and forbidding the planting of cotton thereafter on the same land in successive years...."

## IOWA TUBERCULIN TESTS

A Tipton, Iowa, dispatch to-day says: "National guardsmen last night were quartered here to protect veterinarians while they test cattle for tuberculosis. Acting under orders of Gov. Dan Turner, about 125 officers and 1,550 enlisted men arrived from all sections of Iowa during the day....Referring to Monday's defiance by 200 Cedar County farmers of 65 sheriff's deputies, who sought to protect two veterinarians while carrying out the test, Governor Turner's office yesterday issued a proclamation saying that the situation daily is growing more tense and that unlawful interference with State officers must cease...."

## IOWA CORN LOANS ASKED

The press to-day says: "An effort to arrange financial assistance from the Federal Reserve System for Iowa corn growers was made yesterday when a delegation from that State, headed by Governor Turner and M. G. Thornburg, the State secretary of agriculture, conferred with Eugene Meyer, governor of the Federal Reserve Board...."

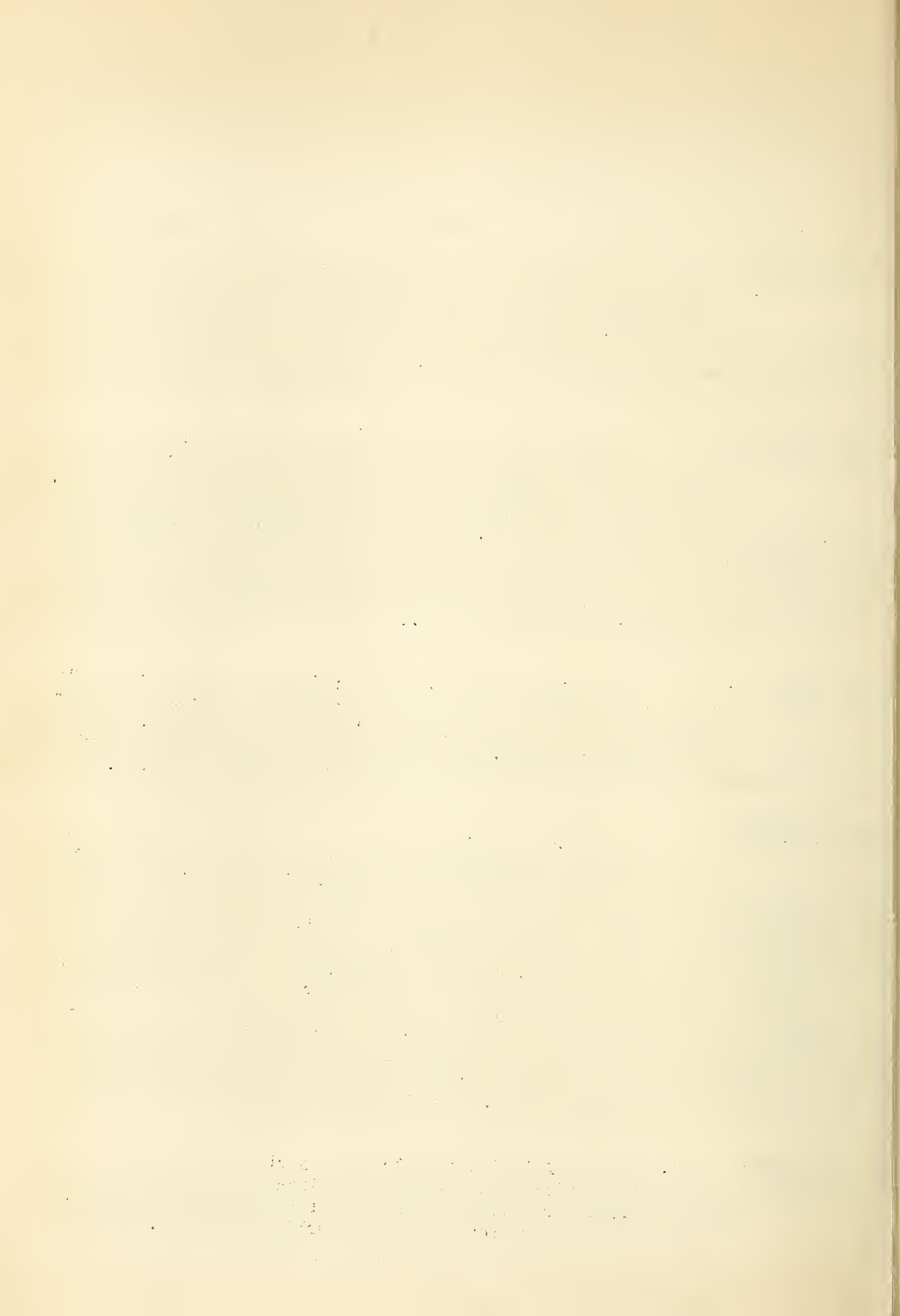
## WAGE SCALE CUTS

A New York dispatch to-day says: "Three of America's greatest corporations yesterday reduced wages 10 per cent and a fourth cut salaries from 10 to 20 per cent. United States Steel and Bethlehem Steel Corporations, between them responsible for more than half of America's great steel production, cut wages, effective October 1. U. S. Steel pays wages to more than 200,000 workers. General Motors Corporation, makers of more than 30 per cent of the Nation's automobiles, reduced salaries, effective the same date. Meanwhile, Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. announced a 10 per cent wage cut...."

Matthew Woll, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, who has been emphatic in his advocacy of the maintenance of wage scales, expressed keen disappointment over the wage cut announcement and said he feared that it might prove the source of even wider trouble than had already been suffered by business and industry in the depression, according to the press to-day.

## BRITISH FINAN- CIAL PROBLEMS

A London dispatch to-day states that the London Stock Exchange will open to-day for business as usual and that Great Britain is preparing to renew efforts for an international conference to deal with problems of the world gold supply.





## Section 2

## Business

## Conditions

Joseph Stagg Lawrence writes under the title "We've More Than Paid the Price" in *World's Work* for October. Mr. Lawrence indicates that the law of averages has worked overtime these past few years and has sent the curve of recent business lower than the 1929 peak would justify. For this reason alone, he argues, the same law of averages now points toward an upswing. He says in part: "If statistical probability has any meaning whatsoever, then the turn in business must now be at hand—unless we have reached a 'new era' in which all trends will be indefinitely downward. There is a third and final approach to our problem. Our inveterate general planners for the most part start out with a belief in the reality and unity of the great abstraction 'general business.' General business is merely a mental standard and has no more existence than the 'average man.' The country has 122,000,000 people and numbers millions of enterprises devoted to the age-old task of making a living. General prosperity is without meaning unless it be the prosperity of these individuals and groups. The welfare of the whole is in fact the sum of the well-being of the component elements. Progress therefore will be achieved and measured by the forward movement of the individual particles...."

## Children's

## Flower

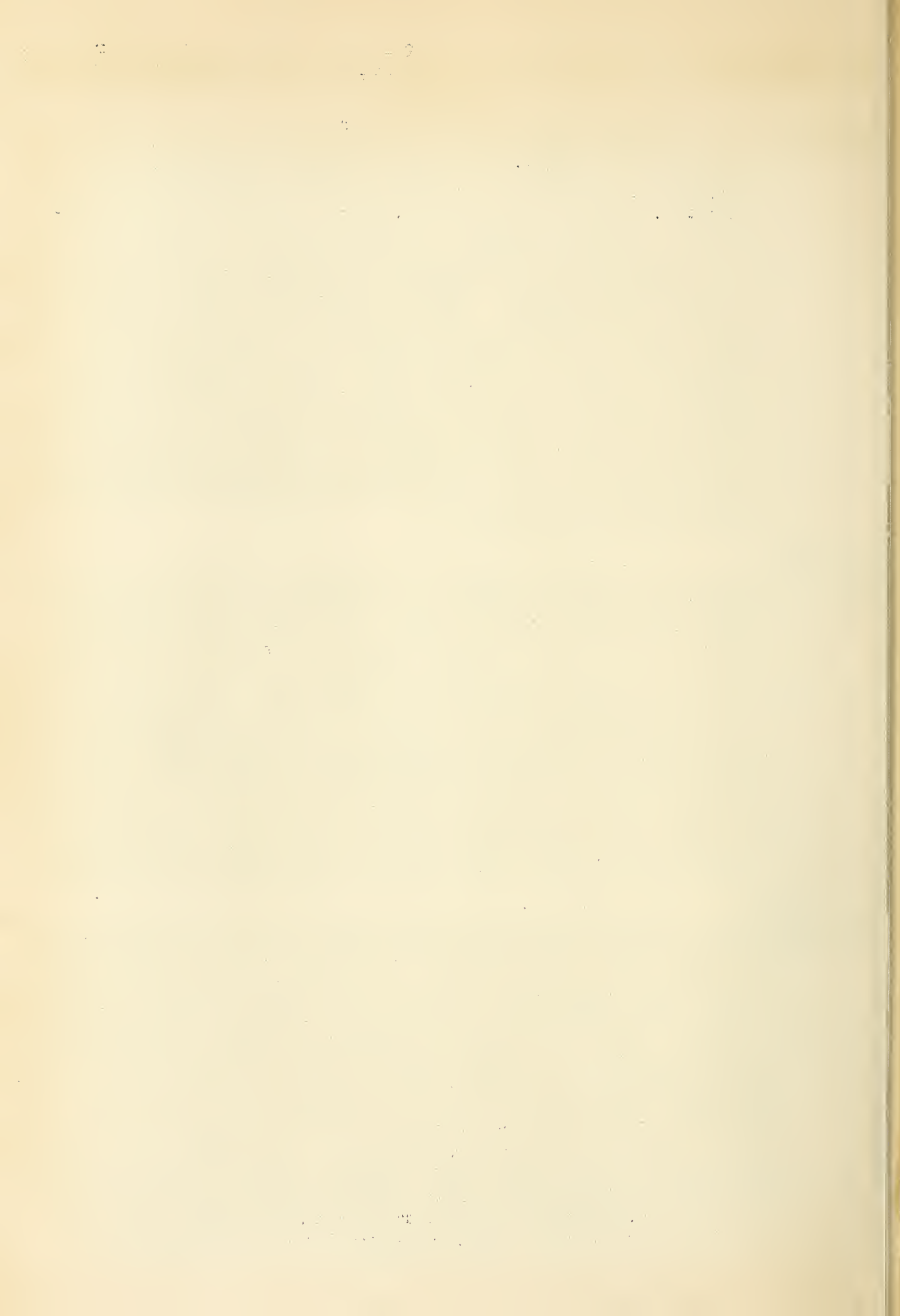
## Show

An editorial in *The Daily Pantagraph* (Bloomington, Ill.) for September 15 says: "The worth to a community of such an event as the third annual children's flower show, held Friday and Saturday, can hardly be estimated. When a group of citizens interest themselves in children to the extent that they furnish them with seeds, give them instructions as to the cultivation of beautiful flowers and their arrangement, and then offer prizes for the best results, that group is certainly community-minded; and when boys and girls by the thousands are interested during the summer months in caring for gardens which provide them with flowers and in planning their exhibits for the annual flower show, those children are benefited mentally and physically. Nothing interests the parent like the activities and accomplishments of the children and for these reasons Bloomington may well feel a debt of gratitude to the Bloomington and Normal Garden Club, the Parent-Teacher Associations, school principals and all who assisted in arranging for the exhibit."

## County Health

## Departments

"Approximately 600 county health departments should be in operation throughout the United States before the close of 1931," Acting Assistant Surgeon Fred T. Foard, of the Public Health Service, states in a recent issue of *Public Health Reports*. The movement for full-time county health departments throughout the country has made great progress during the nineteen years since the first full-time unit was established on July 1, 1911, in the State of Washington. About 24 per cent of the rural population is now being served by a health service that is reasonably effective, but in which there is still room for improvement. There are about 3,000 counties in the United States in which full-time county or district health service is applicable. The development of this tremendous field in the future can take place only as fast as personnel can be trained to take charge of the individual units. Since the full-time county health department movement started a little less than twenty years ago, the national death rate from all causes has dropped from a little more than 14 per 1,000 population to 11; the tuberculosis



(respiratory) death rate has dropped from 138 per 100,000 population to 68; the infant-mortality rate has been reduced from 129 per 1,000 children born to 68; the typhoid fever rate has been reduced 80 per cent., and the diphtheria rate has been reduced about 65 per cent in the same period of time.

#### Crop Control

An editorial in National Farm Journal for October says: "Watching with astonishment the military show put on at the Oklahoma and Texas oil wells by Governors Murray and Sterling, we are irresistibly reminded of the likeness between the troubles of oil and of agriculture. Oil, wheat, cotton, potatoes, coal, lumber--all are raw materials produced from the soil or the primitive rocks beneath it. All are over-produced, less by choice than by necessity. Every producer knows that he would gain if the total production were nicely fitted to consumption. Every producer knows that he dare not cut his own production, without the iron-clad assurance that his competitors will do the same. Into this vicious circle of oversupply of oil, glutted markets and fantastic prices, the governors jab the sharp bayonet of the State guardsman, and the whole industry, far from resisting, breathes a sigh of relief and thanksgiving. It may be violent and illegal, but it is a life-saver, is their attitude. Is agriculture ready for such a drastic solution of our chief troubles? Mentally, we rather think it is. There would be few riots if cotton planting were cut in half for 1932, if wheat plantings were forcibly halved, and no new acreage permitted to be brought into production. This industry, too, would breathe a sigh of relief and gratitude. But there is no such possibility. Farming is not concentrated as is oil in East Texas. More important, authority is not so concentrated in any spot as to control the actions of two million farmers in the Cotton Belt or two million wheat growers, much less the whole six-and-a-quarter million farmers in all branches of the industry....For agriculture, only a long course of education, leading up to thorough organization of the industry, can take the place of Alfalfa Bill's mailed fist."

#### Farm Loan

Foreclosures are farm loans foreclosed? An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 19 says: "Why are farm loans foreclosed? Mainly because the price level slid out from under the loan. The University of Minnesota has been checking a number of farms where foreclosures have taken place. It finds liabilities were only 45 per cent of the farms' assets when the loans were made, but that when affairs were wound up, liabilities had increased to 96 per cent of assets. The actual volume of debts, as measured in dollars, had increased very little, but the value of the assets had gone downhill. The value of the land per acre, for instance, was rated at \$74.40 when the loan was made and \$43.92 when the loan was foreclosed. The Minnesota report comments feelingly on what has been happening: 'Many of the farm debts were contracted during the period of inflation in 1917-1920. At that time, prices generally were high and the purchasing power of the dollar low. Prices have declined greatly since that time, until at present the general price level is about 50 per cent below the period of inflation. To-day, when the farmer pays interest, he makes the payment in dollars having nearly twice as much purchasing power as the dollars he received when he went into debt during the







period of inflation. It takes a much larger amount of farm products to pay interest and principal on the debt than it did a few years ago. In other words, the burden of debt has increased greatly as a result of the price decline. An effective plan of stabilizing the general price level would prevent many hardships among farmers which arise out of general price changes.'..."

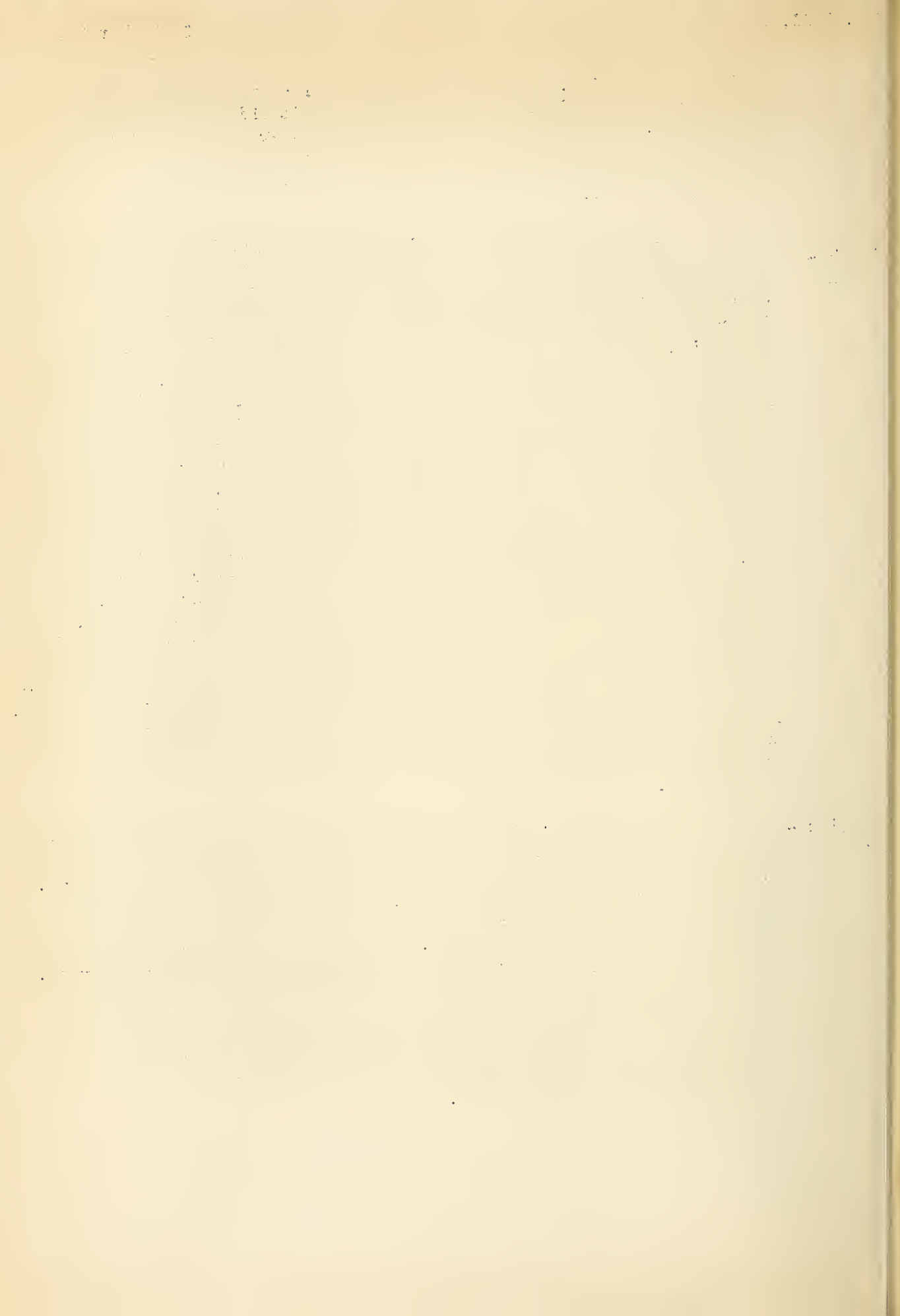
#### Scottish Milk Re- cording

The Scottish Farmer for September 12 says: "Milk recording began in Scotland in 1903, and to-day Scotland has a bigger proportion of officially recorded cows than any other country except Denmark, where recording began at an earlier date and where conditions are more favorable for its development. The report of the Scottish Milk Records' Association just issued gives an account of the wonderful progress that milk recording has made in Scotland and of its beneficial effects on the dairying industry. The scheme of official milk records is administered by the association through local milk recording societies, and the recording is carried out entirely by trained official recorders who have previously undergone a special course of training at the Dairy School or an approved agricultural college. These recorders visit all the herds in their district or circuit at regular intervals of about three weeks, and weigh and sample the evening and morning milk of each cow....Last year there were 42 local milk recording societies in Scotland with a total membership of 731; and the number of cows tested was 30,720. This was a little short of the record figure of 30,898 reached in 1929, but it was well ahead of any other previous year, the nearest approach being 30,293 in 1928....Milk recording was designed primarily to improve the yield per cow and lower the cost of production by eliminating the low yielders, and by more skilful feeding and breeding. Its object is not necessarily to increase the total yield of milk. It would obviously be to the advantage of the dairy farmer if he could produce his present output of milk with fewer cows. Recording is probably of greater benefit in a period of low prices than in a period of prosperity...."

#### Wool Situa- tion

An editorial in The National Wool Grower for September says: "For the wool grower to-day there is immediate and tangible evidence of improvement in addition to a natural optimism as to the final outcome. Despite the drastic measures that have been applied on the ranges and farm to accord with the new economics there is still no prospect of bringing wool and lamb production costs into line with present market prices. As usually happens, when the price movement started downward, it went altogether farther than was justified. Then there is the awful lag in bringing back to the producers the prices that are rightfully theirs. The wool market in this country has passed its worst. Real improvements are shown in the reports appearing in this issue of the Wool Grower and further gain now awaits only completion of the slower developments in foreign markets."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 22.—Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$10.25; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice, \$7 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5 to \$7; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.40 to \$5.75; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$4.50 to \$5.35. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.65.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) at Minneapolis 64  $\frac{3}{8}$  to 68  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter at Chicago 48  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; at St. Louis 48 to 48  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; at Kansas City 44  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 2 hard winter at Chicago 50¢; at Kansas City 40  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 41  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢. No. 3 mixed corn at Minneapolis 39 to 40¢; at Kansas City 43  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 44¢; No. 3 yellow at Chicago 40  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 41  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; at Minneapolis 42 to 43¢; at St. Louis 41¢; at Kansas City 44 to 45¢; No. 3 white oats at Chicago 20  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 22  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; at Minneapolis 23  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 23  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; at St. Louis 22  $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; at Kansas City 25  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Fruits and Vegetables: Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes 85¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; 45¢-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 80¢-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts yellow varieties of onions ranged \$1.75-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.75-\$1.95 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellows 75¢-\$1 per 50-pound sack in Chicago. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$13-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; few \$7-\$8 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.75 per stave barrel in eastern and midwestern cities; \$1.25 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Maryland and Delaware stock 40¢-75¢ per bushel basket in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls 50¢-85¢ in the Middle West. New York Wealthy apples 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket, No. 1, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, in city markets. Eastern Grimes 90¢-\$1 in Baltimore; one car 70¢ f.o.b. Winchester-Cumberland-Shenandoah-Potomac District. Vermont McIntosh \$4-\$4.50 per barrel in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 4 points to 5.61¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.94¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 4 points to 6.14¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 6.12¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 31¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 16  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XLII, No. 72

Section 1

September 24, 1931.

## BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Prices of stocks advanced on the New York Exchange from 1 to 14 points in response to wage cut announcements and London firmness.

Several more large corporations announced wage reductions and adjustments in working hours.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, denounced wage cuts as morally wrong and economically unsound.

Senators and Representatives generally deplored the United States Steel Corporation's move. (Press, Sept. 24.)

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## SOUTHERN COTTON

An Austin, Tex., dispatch to-day states that governors of nine cotton-producing States have been asked by Governor Ross S. Sterling to join Texas in legislating against overproduction of cotton. Telegrams were sent to the Governors of Georgia, Alabama,

Oklahoma, Mississippi, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina and North Carolina. The first answers to be received were noncommittal.

A Columbia, S. C., dispatch to-day states that Governor Blackwood signed the South Carolina cotton prohibition bill yesterday, which makes it a misdemeanor to plant cotton in South Carolina in 1932. The act becomes inoperative unless three-fourths of the South's cotton acreage be affected by similar acts.

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## IOWA CATTLE TESTS

A Tipton, Iowa, dispatch to-day reports that State veterinarians last night were ready to continue tuberculin testing of Cedar County cattle under the protection of Iowa National Guardsmen.

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## LEGION CHIEFS URGE EMERGENCY MEASURES

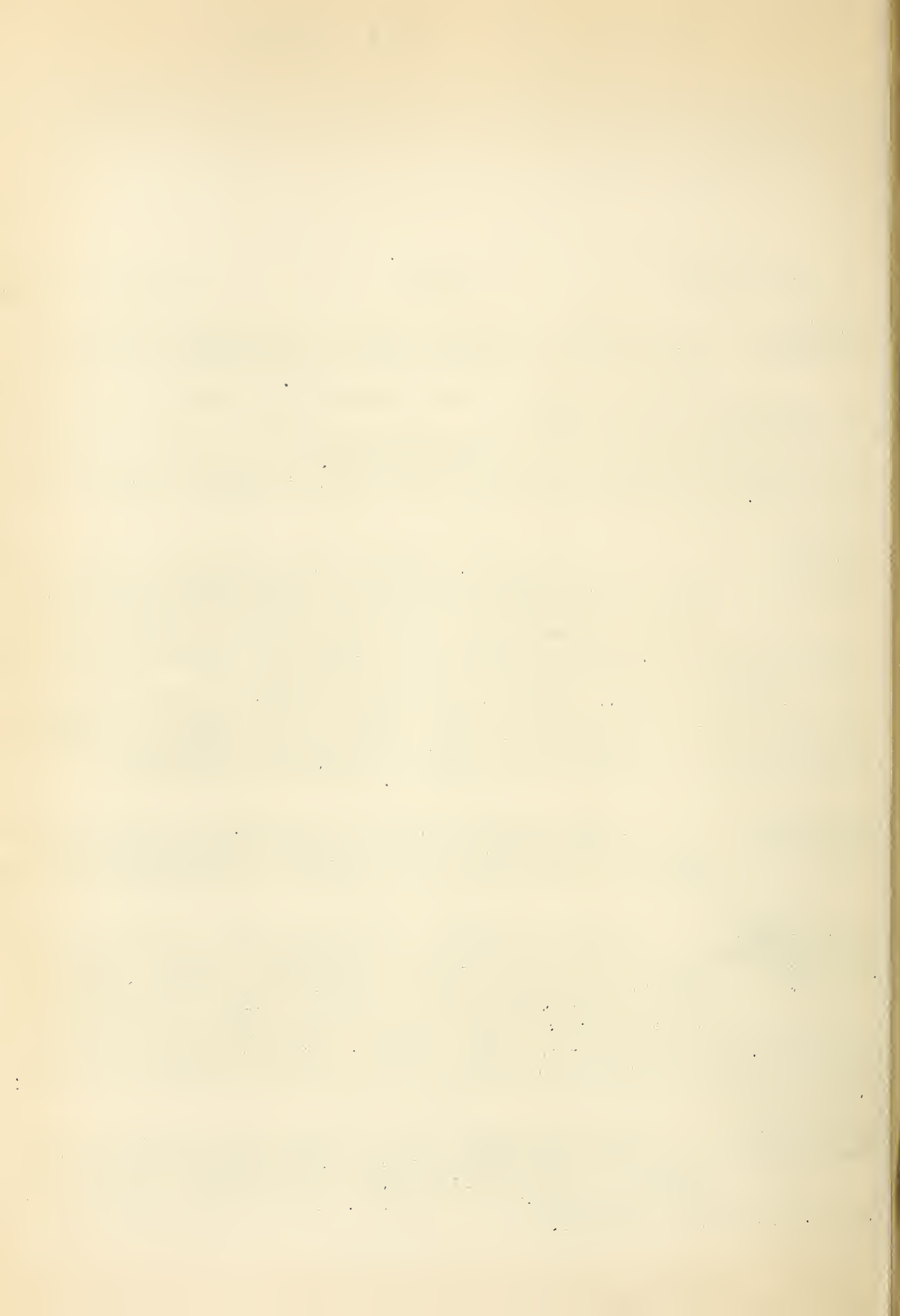
A Detroit dispatch to the press to-day says: "The American Legion will be asked to-day to urge President Hoover to declare a national emergency and appoint a nonpartisan council of national defense with war-time powers to end the 'unrest, indecision and dissatisfaction' of the present economic crisis. A resolution to this effect, sponsored by Howard Coffin, a member of Woodrow Wilson's war-time Council of National Defense, was approved by the resolutions committee yesterday. ..."

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## BRITISH TARIFF PROPOSAL

A London dispatch to-day reports that the London Chamber of Commerce informed Prime Minister MacDonald yesterday that its members, by a vote of 4,106 to 341, had expressed themselves in favor of the imposition of tariffs. The vote was a tabulation of replies to a list of questions.

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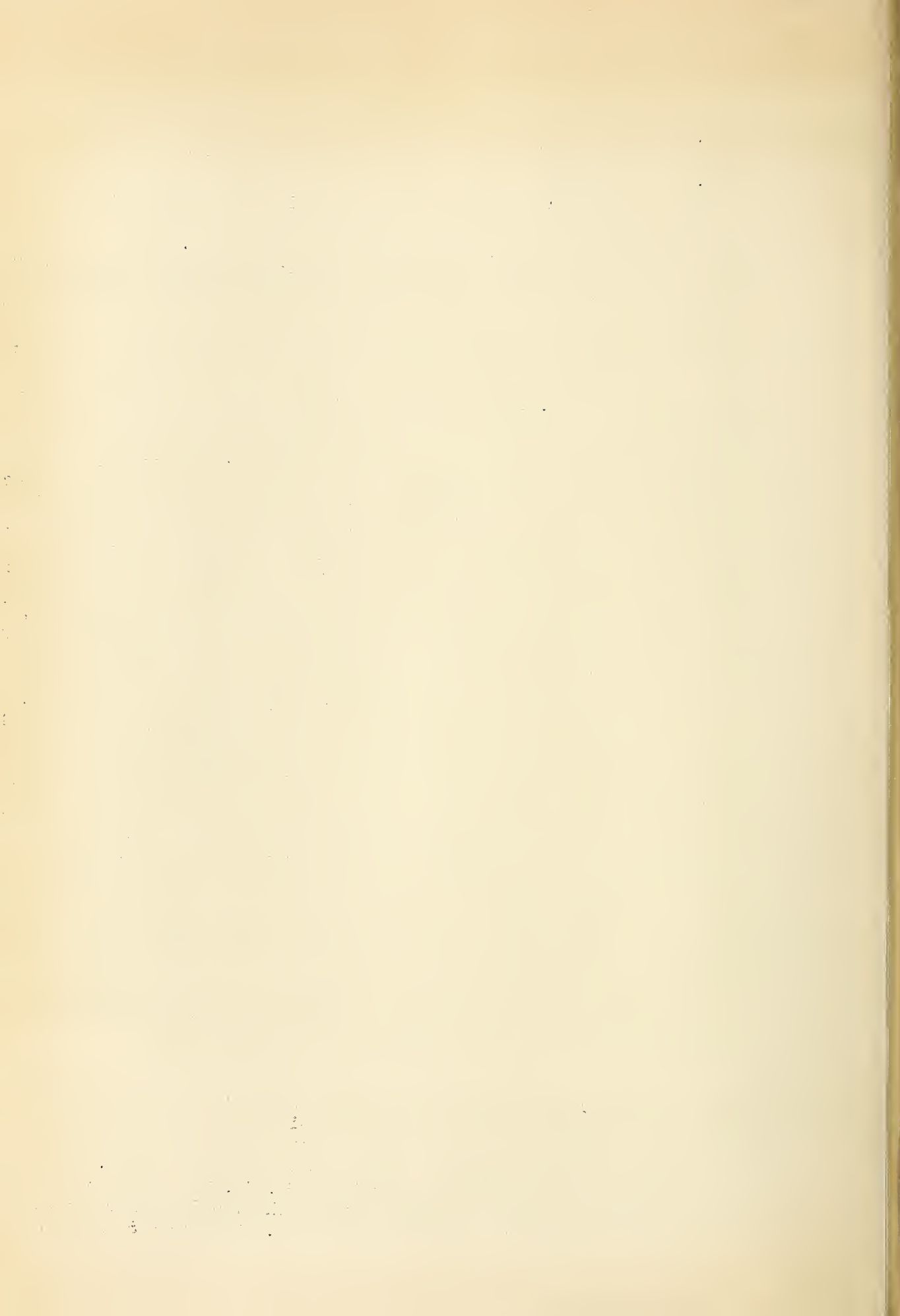
## Section 2

Ayres on  
Conditions

Col. Leonard P. Ayres, vice president. The Cleveland Trust Co., writing on "The True Lesson of This Depression" in The Cleveland Trust Monthly for September, says: "When primary post-war price deflation and primary post-war depression have run their course, there ensues a period of urban prosperity....The world was moving through such a period from the depression of 1921 to the end of the prosperity in 1929. Two characteristic developments mark a period of that sort. The first is a boom in city real estate, with great activity in building construction, stimulated not merely by the prevailing economic prosperity of the city dwellers, but also by the making up of the building shortages that accumulated during the previous war period of inflated prices. The other development is general speculation in almost everything except commodities. A period of this sort can last a long time, but eventually it destroys itself....Apparently it takes about ten years for the developments that have been described to take place. The peak of commodity prices in the Civil War came in 1864, and the first full year of the secondary post-war depression was 1874. After the World War the peak of commodity prices was in 1920, and the first full year of the secondary depression was 1930. Our information about developments following earlier wars is fragmentary, but it appears to be true that a similar time-interval came between the peak of price inflation and the secondary depression following the Revolutionary War, and again after the War of 1812. Moreover, in each case there seems to have been the same sequence of (1) price inflation, (2) farm land prosperity and speculation, (3) price deflation and depression, (4) city prosperity and speculation, (5) secondary price deflation and secondary depression. We are beginning to realize not only that these sequences follow wars, but that they do so according to a rather definite pattern....If we had some wise, well-trained and studious economists 200 years old and still in the full possession of their powers, they would have lived through and observed the post-war sequence of business developments three times prior to this one. After having seen business follow the same type of pattern three times during and following great wars, they probably could have warned us about what was going to happen following the World War. The same sequence has been followed before in earlier war and post-war periods, but this time the whole world is involved. Instead of thinking about it in terms of country districts and city populations, we must remember that this time it affects whole nations, and almost all nations, all over the world. Our troubles are not the result of some mysterious and hitherto unsuspected weakness in our social system, nor can they be cured by adopting a five-year, or ten-year, or twenty-year plan of reorganization of our industries, our banks and our commerce. The true lesson of this depression is that we can not afford any more great wars."

Building Con-  
struction  
Employ-  
ment

Reports on employment and pay-roll totals were received from 4,199 identical firms engaged in building construction in July and August. These firms had in the 27 cities a total of 56,187 employees for the week ending nearest the 15th of July as compared with 55,306 for a similar period in August. This is a decrease of 1.6 per cent. These firms had a combined payroll of \$1,647,393 for the week ending nearest the 15th of July as compared with \$1,579,241 for a similar period ending nearest the 15th of August. This is a decrease of 4.1 per cent.





Cotton-  
Textile In-  
stitute

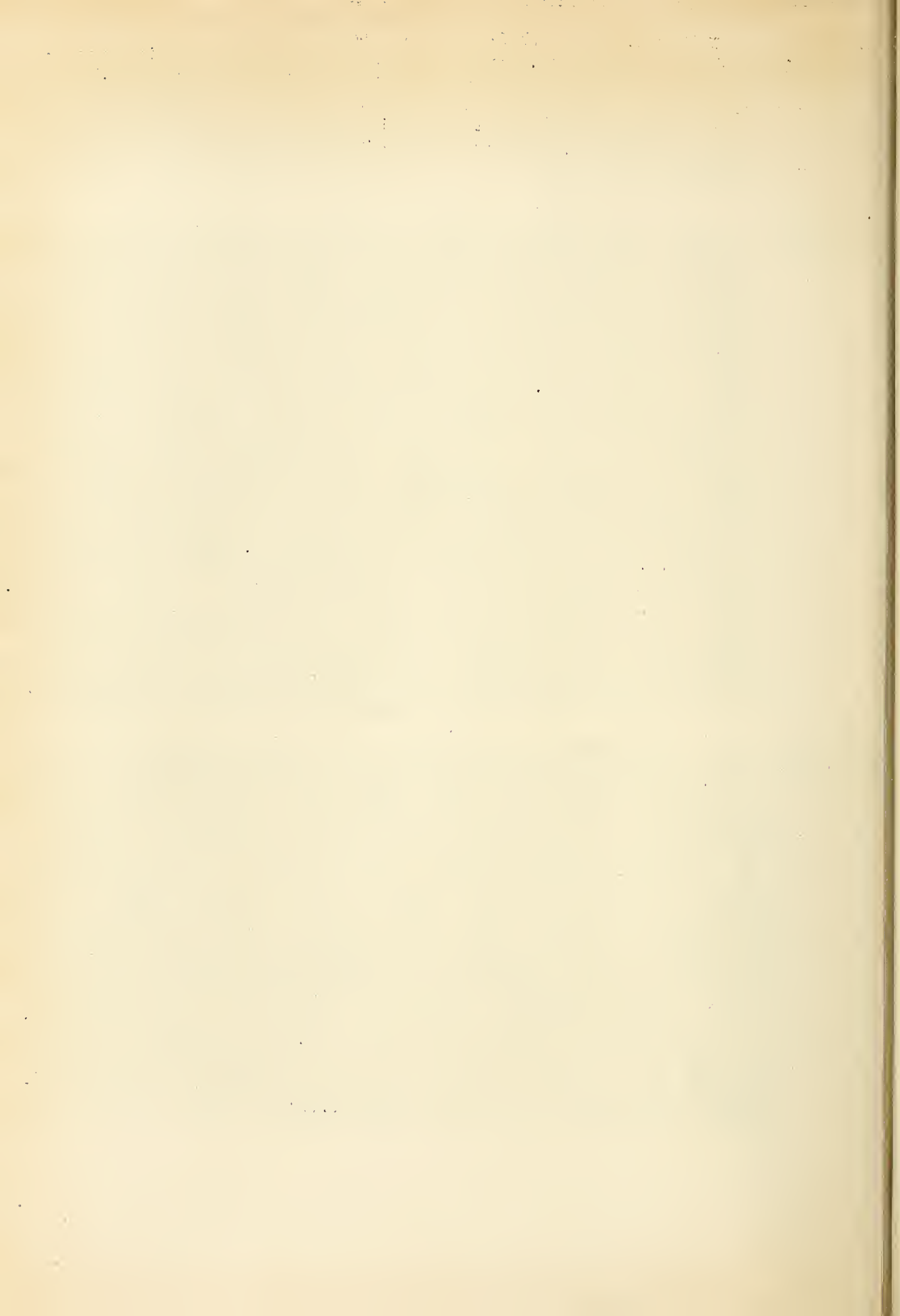
Walker D. Hines, chairman of the board of directors of the Cotton-Textile Institute, stated last Thursday to the executive committee of the institute that it was not his purpose to accept re-election as chairman at the time of the annual meeting on October 21 and that he would recommend that the executive functions heretofore performed by the chairman be vested in the president—George A. Sloan. (Commerce and Finance, Sept. 23.)

Country  
Bank Bor-  
rowing

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 19 says: "Before the war, it was nothing unusual for a country bank to borrow a hundred thousand dollars from its correspondent bank in the city, in order to take care of cattle feeder loans, etc., during the fall and winter months. But since the war, bank examiners, public opinion, and lack of confidence have combined to make most country bankers afraid to borrow from city banks to re-lend to good farmer customers. Most country banks would be glad to borrow from a city bank in order to take care of the needs of reliable farmers. Moreover, the city banks would be glad to lend to those country bankers in whom they have confidence. Many of the city banks have a lot of money lying around now which they don't know what to do with. The trouble seems to be that country bankers are afraid of criticism by the general public and by bank examiners. In these times of deflation, the general public has been taught to believe that any bank that has much borrowed money is in a dangerous position. Of course, this is not the case if the money has been lent out again to reliable men....At the tail end of a depression, it is sound to borrow, just as it is fatal to do so in a time of inflation. We hope, therefore, that the country banks will now begin to borrow from their correspondent banks in the cities, and that the cities will look with favor on this proposition, and that neither the general public nor the bank examiners will criticize the procedure. It is time for renewal of confidence on the part of all people who have anything to do with our financial system."

European  
Meat Pro-  
duction

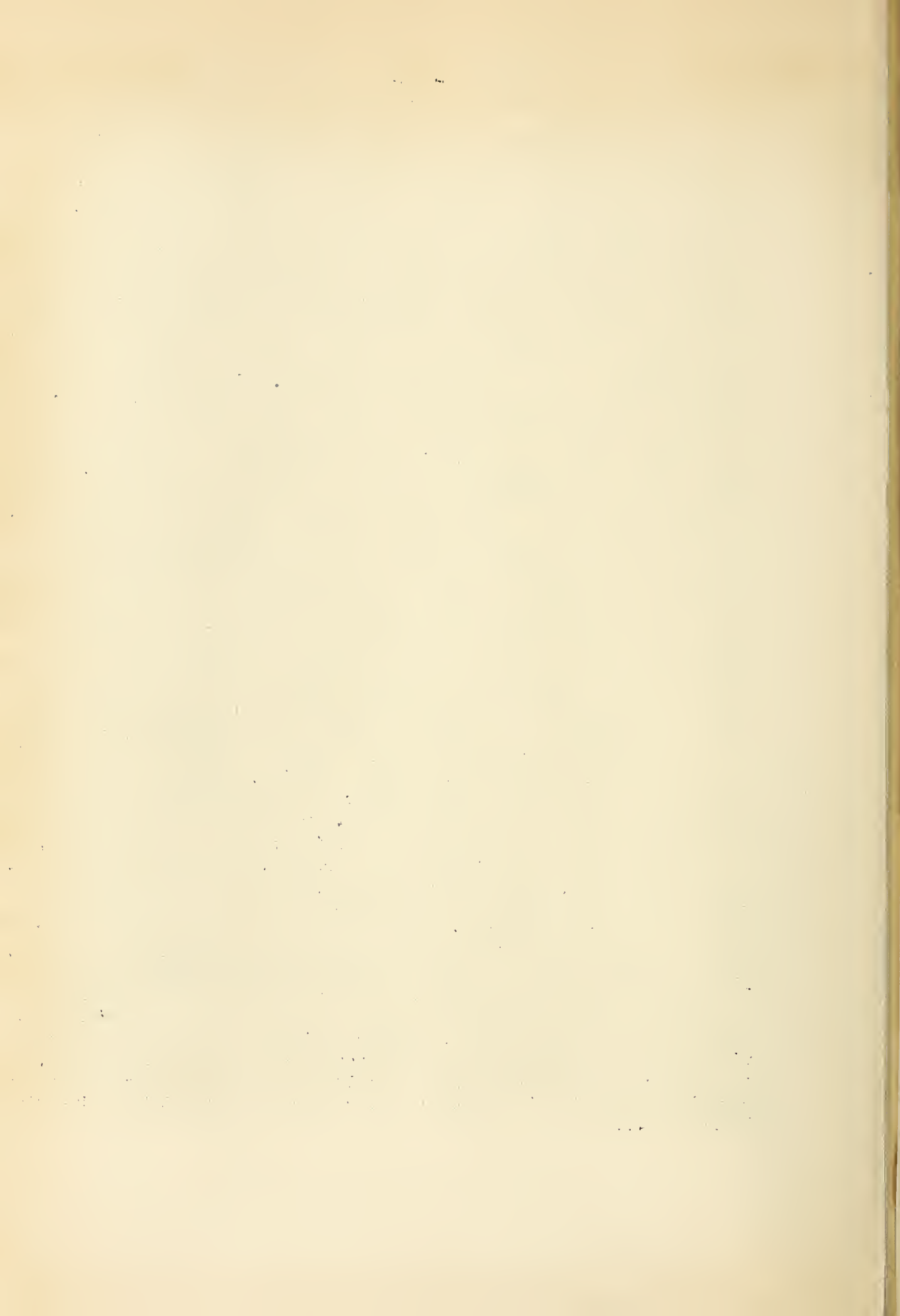
N. Tournour, writing in The Estate Magazine (London) for September, says: "Within the next few years the Soviet Republic, as promoters of a colossal enterprise in meat production, will be entering the world's markets, with every facility for distributing her exports to Europe and Asia direct. In a year or two there will be cheap meat in abundance, for the greatest pastoral nation of the Old World is busily organizing and setting in train her vast resources for raising, in especial, sheep, though the Soviet aims at the export of beef as well as mutton and lamb. The steppes or plains of the Workers' Republic, reaching from Hungary and Poland to Mongolia, admit of vast possibilities; given that the railroad system is pulled together by the Americans engaged on the job. Even with the haphazard methods of Tzarite days there were individual herds of more than half-a-million sheep each. Figures are almost impossible to get now, but, according to the last issued by the Imperial Government, the flocks even then outnumbered the total of the sheep and lambs in Australasia at the same period by hard upon a million; notwithstanding that for some reason or other the great Yubiloff steppes, and the Orloff, escaped enumeration of the flocks upon them...."



Wheat in  
China

C. E. Williams is the author of "Wheat Culture in China" in The Northwestern Miller for September 16. He says in part: "There is very little historical data to be had from the Chinese on the subject of China's wheat; the celestial is weak on figures of this kind. But there is ample evidence, at least, of China's public and private interest in wheat culture, both past and present....The work of wheat improvement, I learned, had resulted in selecting from the 910 varieties under observation three with outstanding merits, noted for their luster and compactness of grain, and their high percentage of gluten and other qualities that make them valuable for milling. But what I wanted to know was the attitude of the Chinese farmer toward these scientific findings and demonstrations. I had always understood that John Chinaman of the fields was an individual whose conservatism overcame his common sense. This was confessed by the experiment station folk. John Chinaman did not change his methods readily, they said, partly through fear of losing the year's crop, without which starvation would be his portion. Actually, however, after some of his neighbors had shown the productive results of improved seed and methods, he was perfectly open to the argument of increased revenue from better crops. The Chinese farmer, I was reminded, knew certain of the important theories of agriculture. He understood rotation of crops and something about selection, although the scientific aspects of the latter were beyond his scope. Fertilization, other than the convenient method now employed, was a tradition that had to be overcome, likewise, by scientific devotees of agriculture. But the opposition to progress did not lie solely with the farmer, according to one of the college (College of Agriculture, Nanking) department heads. Many of the educated class looked upon Chinese agriculture as in an extremely high stage of development. The Chinese farmer, they considered, was a model of economy, industry and usefulness, and many of them had to be convinced of the necessity for future scientific farming. This was a great handicap....But if the Chinese farmer never has amassed wealth, he has held an honorable station among his fellows. Of the four great classes which have composed the social structure of China since times immemorial, that of the farmer until recent years stood second. The scholar was first, the artisan third, and the merchant last. Of late the merchant has crept upward in the scale, and the venerable place of the scholar has been usurped by the politician and the business man and the soldier, the latter of whom had no place at all in the ancient arrangement. Still, from an academic point of view, the Chinese farmer retains his station. The classic literature of China, I discovered, was full of evidences of the esteem in which agriculture always has been held in the Far East, particularly in remote times. Chinese writers of all ages have vied with each other in putting into literary form the lore of the soil, and the science of agriculture so far as it has been known to the Chinese as such is represented in countless works which once crowded the imperial libraries...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 23.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 64  $\frac{5}{8}$  to 68  $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 48 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 49¢; Kansas City 45¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 50¢; Kansas City 41 to 41 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 39 to 40¢; Kansas City 41 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 40 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 42 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 43¢; Kansas City 42 to 43¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 24¢; Minneapolis 23 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ (Nom.)

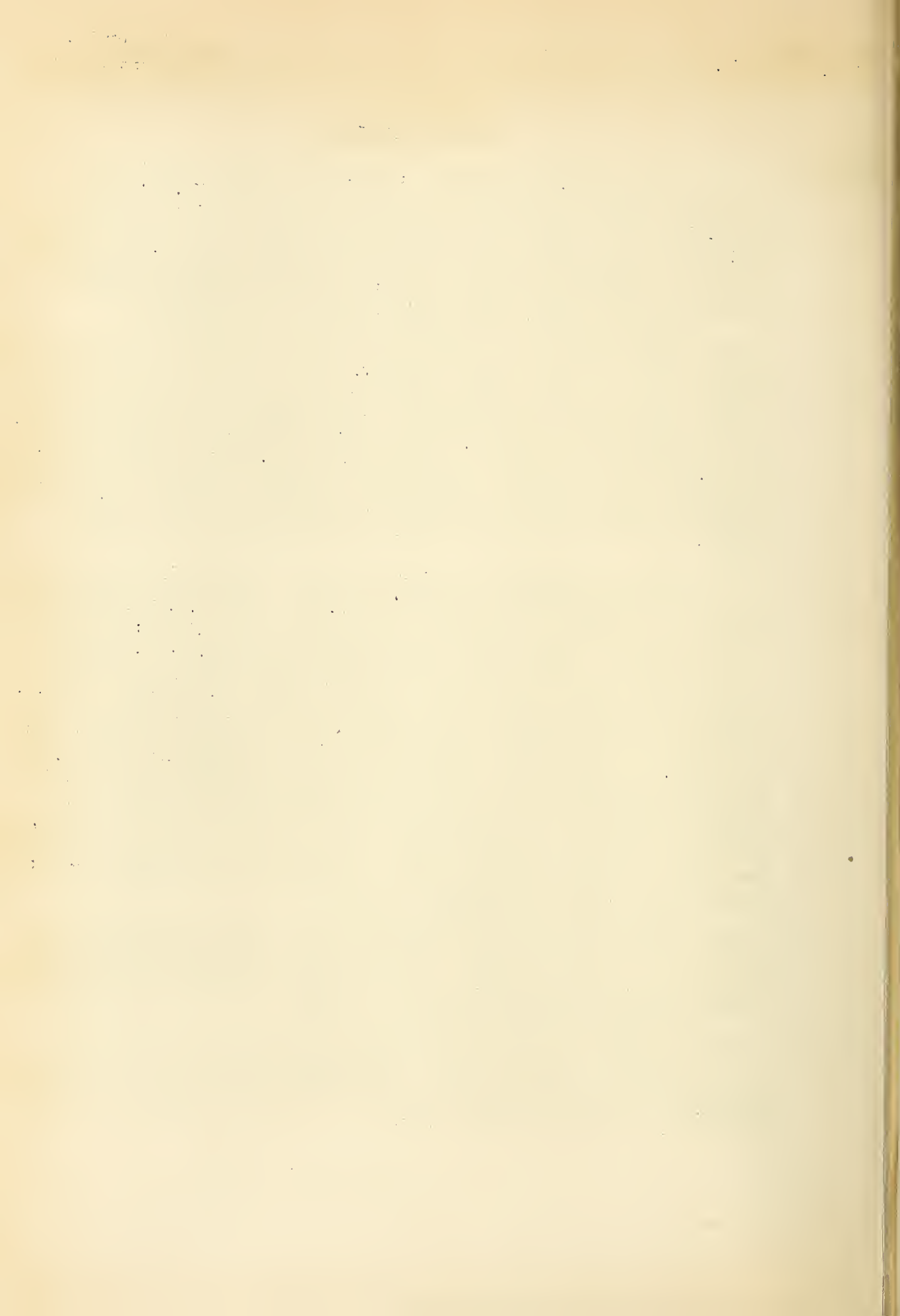
Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$10.25; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.50; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.75; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5.15 to \$5.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$5. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$6.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.65.

Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; 45¢-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Long Island sacked Green Mountains 95¢-\$1.05 in New York City; 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Riverhead. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 85¢-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago; few 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Wauwata. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.60-\$1.70 in Chicago and 70¢ f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York and Massachusetts sacked yellow onions 90¢-\$1.15 per 50 pounds in eastern cities; few 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Connecticut Valley points. Midwestern yellows 75¢-\$1 in Chicago. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$13-\$19 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern round type \$25-\$30 in St. Louis. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.15-\$2 per stave barrel in the East; \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York Wealthy apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, \$1-\$1.25 per bushel basket in New York City; 75¢-80¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Wealthys mostly 90¢ in Chicago; Maiden Blush and Grimes 60¢-75¢; Wealthys 75¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 24 points to 5.85¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.90¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 25 points to 6.39¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 26 points to 6.38¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 31¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 73

Section 1

September 25, 1931.

## TAX REVISION

The press to-day says: "Convinced that revision of the Federal tax structure is inevitable, Treasury officials took steps yesterday to seek means and methods of increasing revenues and placing the Government's money-raising system on a more stable basis. When such a revision will take place has to be determined...."

## GREEN ON UN-EMPLOYMENT

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor estimated yesterday that the total number of unemployed persons were 5,600,000, with industrial unemployment increasing steadily since last May. He said that the number was increased by about 350,000 from July to September. Thirteen cities show unemployment increasing, better conditions are to be found in ten and no change was reported by one city. Especially bad situations were reported in Chicago, Jersey City, Cleveland, Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia, Detroit and Birmingham, he declared. (Press, Sept. 25.)

## LIVESTOCK AND WOOL COOPERATIVES

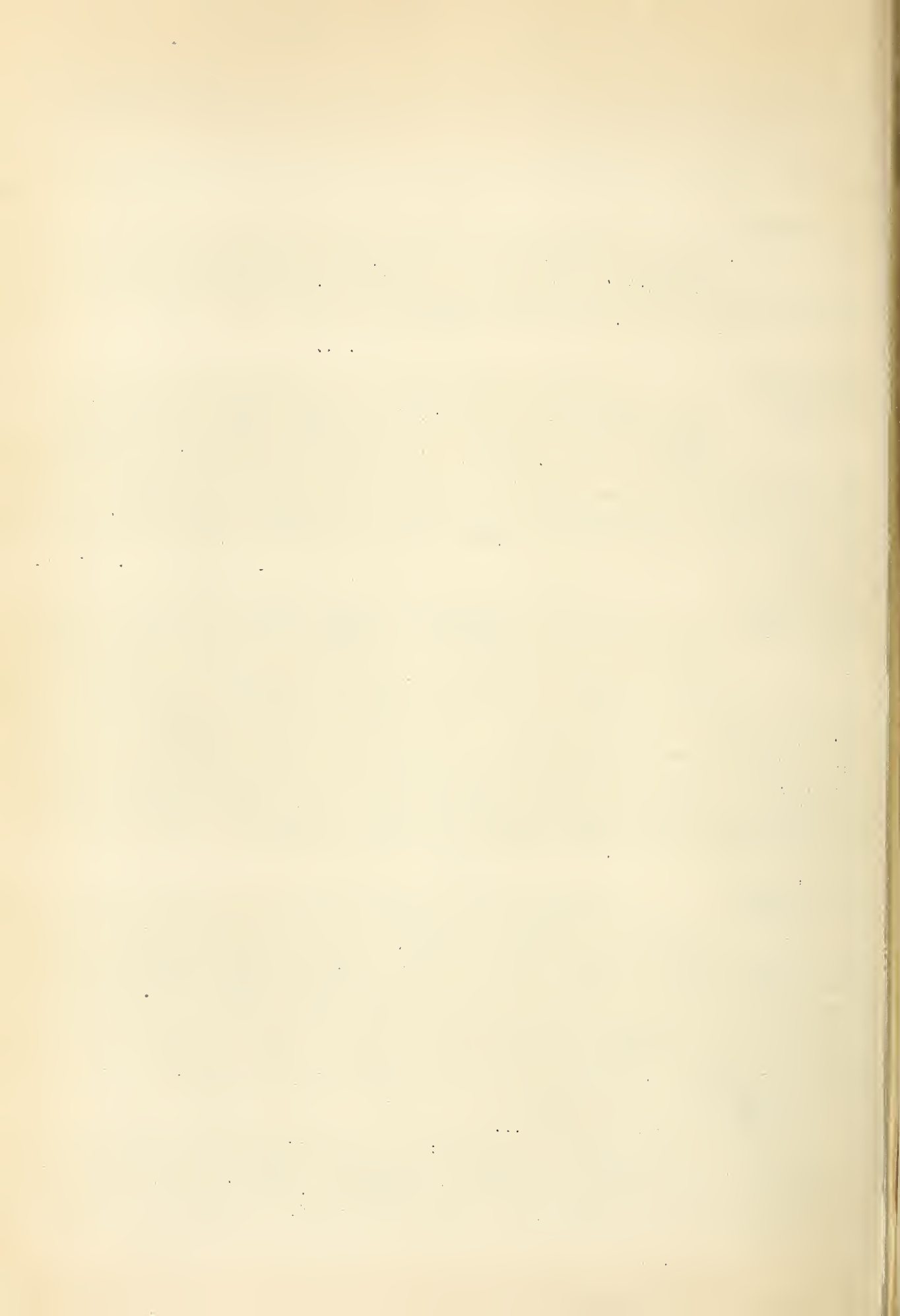
The Federal Farm Board made public yesterday a report on the cooperative associations handling livestock and wool in twelve Northeastern States--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and West Virginia. Forty-four cooperative associations sold livestock and wool valued at \$1,422,775 in 1929 for 9,212 farmer members located in eight Northeastern States. In addition, these cooperatives sold other farm products valued at \$99,103 and farm supplies amounting to \$190,503, making a total business for these cooperatives of \$1,712,381. These facts were revealed in a survey made jointly by the Farm Board and State agricultural agencies in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia.

## STERLING DROP

A London dispatch to-day says: "As a result chiefly of the speculative selling of sterling abroad the pound further declined yesterday, although the prices of commodities and British industrial shares soared upward at great speed. British funds, however, suffered a fall because of the sentimental effect of the slipping of the pound. The bank rate remained unchanged at 6 per cent, and in the money market there was a further decline in loan rates, but discount quotations were steady. Sterling on New York, which on Wednesday closed at \$4.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ , declined rather sharply, then recovered, but fell again, finishing at \$3.85, which makes the gold value of the pound a trifle less than 16 shillings, against a par of 20...."

The New York Times to-day says: "The New York money market yesterday felt the first severe shock growing out of Britain's suspension of the gold standard and the consequent disruption of the foreign exchanges. Foreign central banks, seeking to strengthen their reserves, earmarked another \$64,000,000 of gold, bringing the total loss to the gold stocks of the country this week, as a result of earmarkings, to \$180,600,000...."





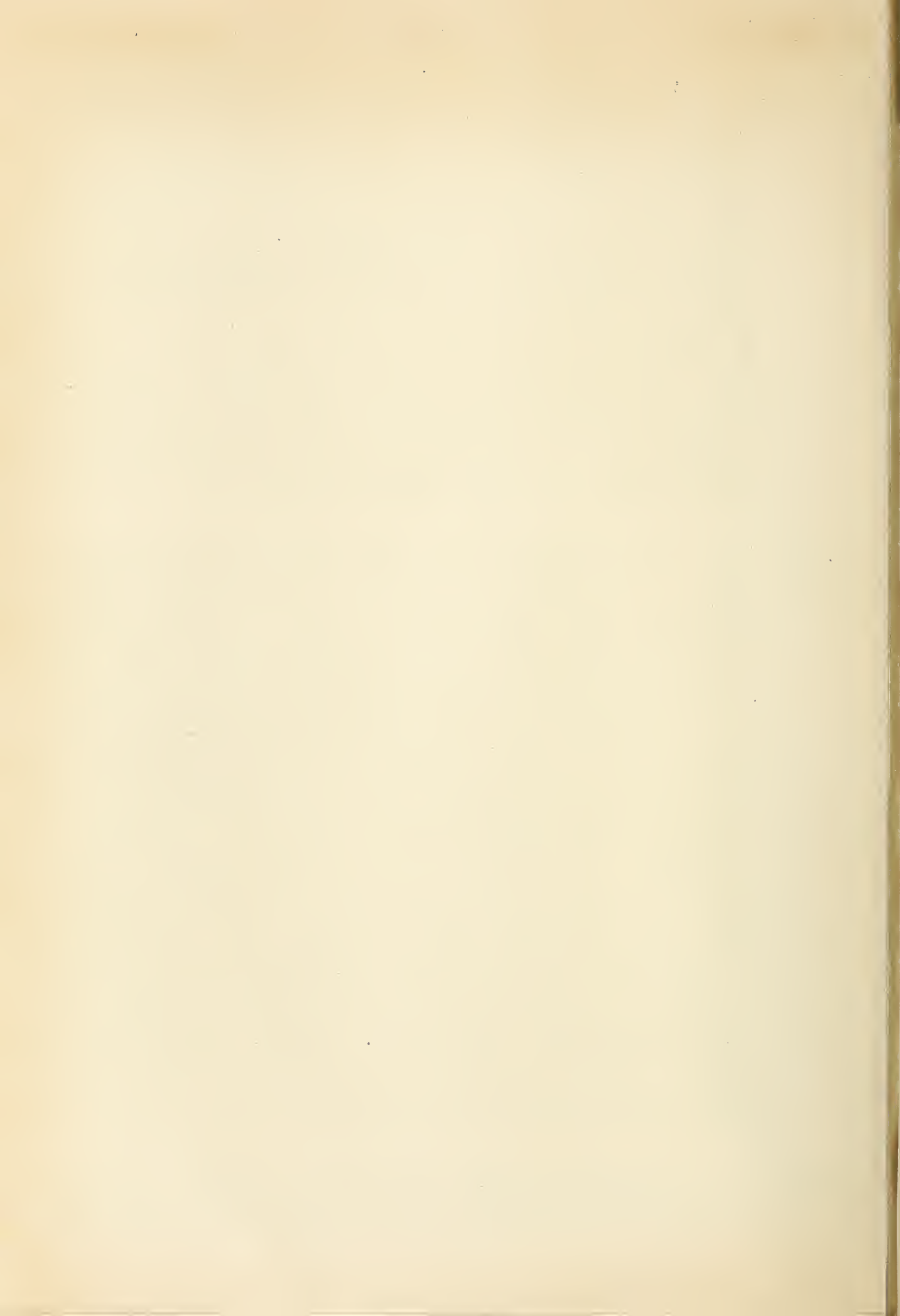


## Section 2

**City Building** According to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 338 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over there was an increase of 13.4 per cent in the estimated cost of buildings for which permits were issued during the month of August, 1931, as compared with the month of July, 1931. There was an increase of 21.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings and an increase of 18.9 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. Permits issued for all building operations during August, 1931, totaled \$127,139,031. Dwelling units were provided for 8,628 families in the new buildings for which permits were issued during August. This is an increase of 1.7 per cent as compared with dwelling units provided during the month of July, 1931. The United States Government contracts let during the month of August, 1931, totaled \$28,462,261. Comparing permits issued in 290 identical cities during August, 1931, and August, 1930, there was a decrease of 10.3 per cent in total construction. A decrease of 22.6 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings; an increase of 1.5 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. The number of family dwelling units decreased 18.4 per cent.

**Community  
Country  
Beautifi-  
cation** An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.Dak.) for Sept. 15 says: "Gilbert K. Chesterton, the noted English writer and lecturer, has returned to his native land after a sojourn of several weeks in the United States. Most of the time that he was here he spent in the Middle West. Upon arriving in London, he issued a statement describing the Middle West. Among other things, he said that the average town was ugly and uninviting. One's first reaction to such a comment is to take issue with the critic, to defend stoutly the beauty of the American communities and berate the visitor who dared to find fault. Yet, we might derive some benefit from Chesterton's statement if we analyze it and look into the mirror to see whether he is right or wrong. It is true that the average American town is not as attractive as the town of similar size in England. Visitors to England from the United States often remark that that country resembles one large park with attractive trees, well-groomed lawns and countrysides and picturesque architecture. Reasons for the distinction exist, however, and they are not concerned with a lack of appreciation on our part. England has been thickly populated for many centuries and its improvements represent the work of years and years. Added to this is an almost constant moisture that keeps nature fresh and vigorous throughout the months. Here in the United States we are extremely young in comparison....Now that the preliminary period is passing, one finds a growing attention to the development of beautiful surroundings. There is a constant extension of parks and boulevards. Many clubs are organized to improve civic enterprises, to eliminate ugly places and promote general beautification. Yards and gardens are receiving individual and group attention. Out of this is emerging a more beautiful country and one which will soon compare with the older beauties of Chesterton's beloved England...."

**Friday on  
Conditions** David Friday, writes under the title "Shifting into Second" in World's Work for October. The past three years have been hard on the reputation of business prophets, he asserts, but in this article



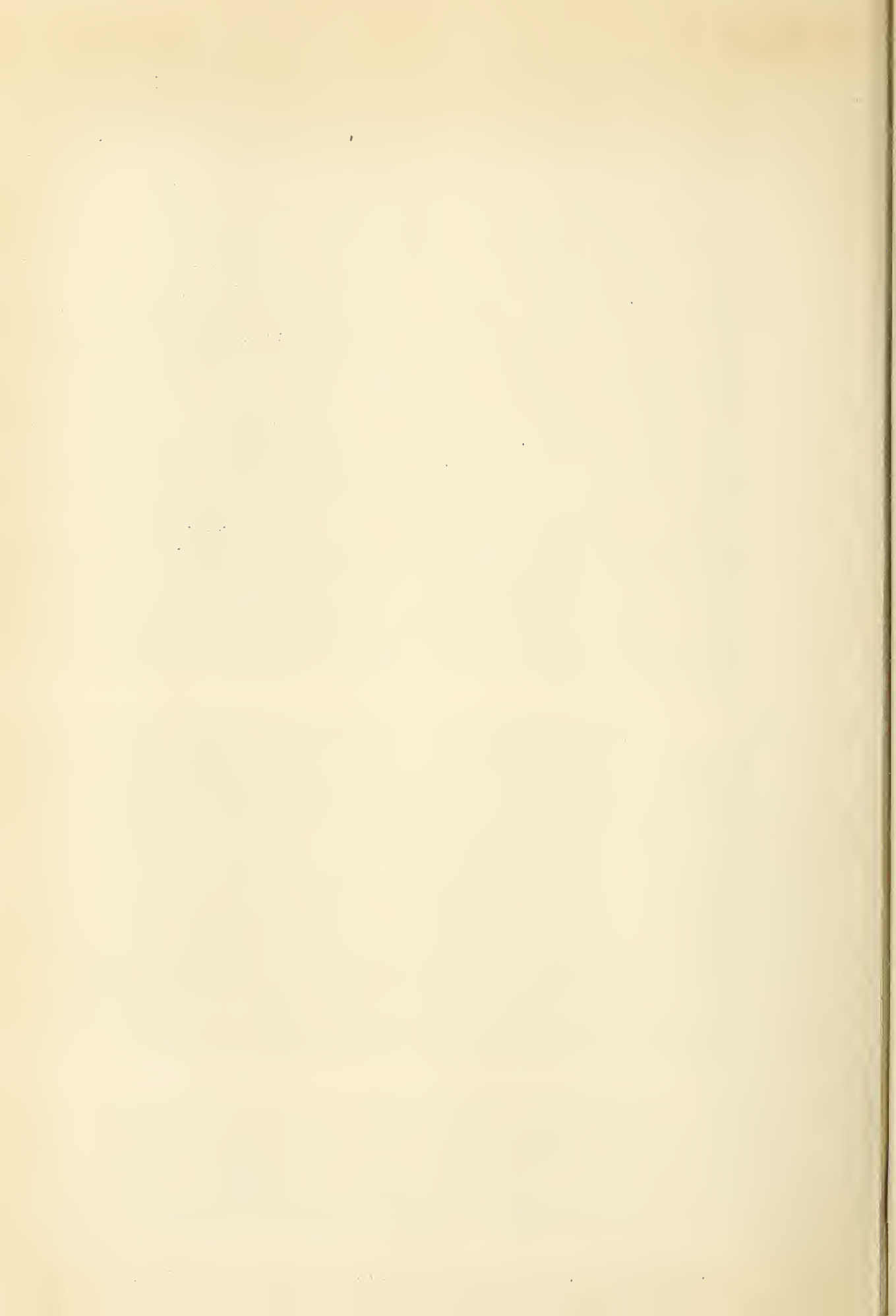
he essays to show that business is on the road to recovery. He says in part: "The second quarter of 1931 will probably stand in history as marking the turning point in the present depression. It is not the lowest period in the level of industrial production; the low level of creative activity was reached in the closing months of last year and in the opening month of this. Even when correction is made for the seasonal upswing which occurs in the spring months, the output of mines and manufactures, as measured by the Federal Reserve index, was still 7 per cent higher in the spring of this year than it had been at the turn of the year. The two months of April and May were 10 per cent higher than December and January. Now that the earnings of corporations are known for the second quarter, evidence is accumulating that this upturn in output was accompanied by increased profits....To-day, retail prices have fallen fully 25 per cent. With money income down less than that, and with the accumulation of wants which has been going on during the past year, retail buying has picked up. It will continue to improve in volume. Even though the customer spends fewer dollars than before, the physical volume of goods moved has increased because of the reduced price. When this is going on production must be increased to supply the demand. This ushers in the first stage of the business revival. We entered upon that stage some months ago. With reduced retail prices and depleted inventories, production of consumer's goods will mount gradually throughout the remaining months of 1931. Producer's goods such as steel may lag and so may carry some of the indexes which are heavily weighted with the latter to new low levels. But these will gradually follow the others in their revival. By December of this year the volume of industrial output should be from 20 to 25 per cent larger than it was in December, 1930...."

#### Living Cost

A recent analysis by the Department of Labor shows the cost of living in the United States has decreased since 1929 by 11.7 per cent. The index is built of the items food, clothing, rent, fuel and light, household furnishing goods and miscellaneous. The most substantial decline has taken place in foodstuffs. These show a drop of 23.5 per cent. Clothing prices showed a change of 9.4 per cent while rent decreased 7.5 per cent. A decrease of 3 per cent was shown by fuel and light, while household furnishings declined almost 11 per cent. The miscellaneous column, including all necessities not otherwise classified, showed only a nominal reduction. In all cases except fuel and light, showing a tendency to increase during the winter season, the commodity items have displayed a steady decline down to the present summer. In the six months period ending June, 1931, occurred the most marked decline in the food group, totaling 13.8 per cent. In the same time house furnishings declined 6 per cent, fuel and light 5.5 per cent, while clothing went down 4.6 and rents fell off 3.1 per cent.

#### Prices

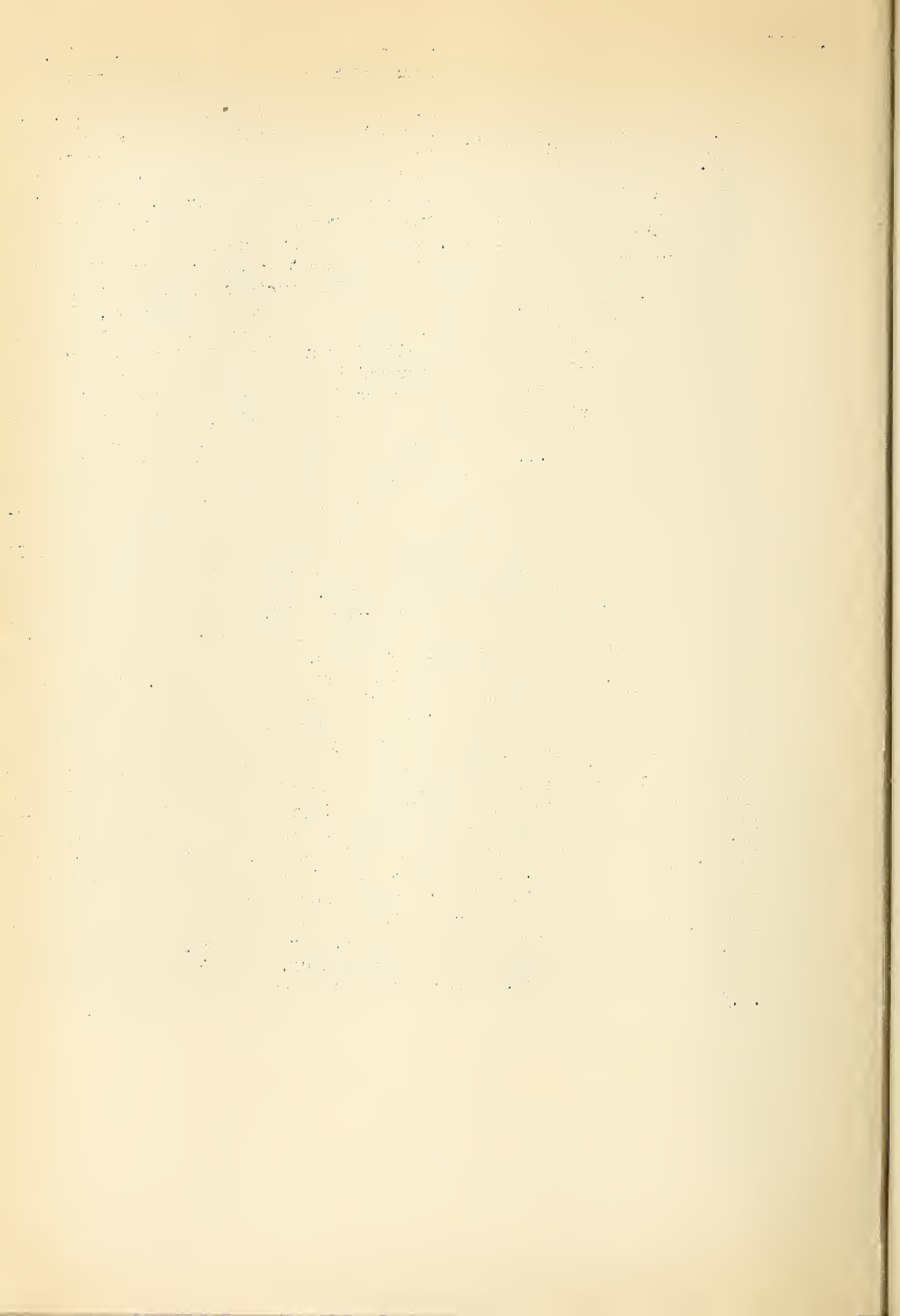
Edna Lonigan, writing under the title "Prices Must Come Down!" in The New Republic for September 23, says: "...The thesis of this article is that the essential factor in the depression phase is the credit and price system. The characteristic, the fundamental, symptom of business crises is the immediate contraction of credit. If the volume of credit has shrunk in half, it must be followed by an equivalent decrease in prices, or the volume of business will be curtailed. At present,





prices are reduced over a small part of the economic system only. Retail prices, legal prices, labor prices and capital charges move not at all. The contraction in prices must take place, and so it now takes place with terrific violence in the small area where prices are still flexible. The result is a violent contraction in trade. Since price changes are not distributed equally throughout the system, they fall with crushing force on a few, usually the producing classes, and the necessary curtailment of production leads to another contraction of credit and to the unemployment that still further paralyzes the economic system. We have then, in the failure of our price mechanism, the essential factor in the continuance, as against the cause, of depressions. The havoc wrought by price rigidity is worse than that caused by the original depression, as the fever which nature devises to carry off the waste products of disease may be more deadly than the disease itself. The remedy is price reductions, all along the line, until prices of rent and gas and electricity, bond and mortgage interest, have gone as low as the supply of money....The complaint is that more price reductions would cause havoc in industry. The answer is that havoc we are bound to have. Price equalization will cause far less havoc than a policy of drift... It may be argued that the way to restore volume is to raise prices by putting more money into circulation. There are three difficulties. It does no good for the Reserve Banks to put money into the market through purchases of stocks and commercial paper, because the funds will not be taken up. They will not be money-in-use. If, instead, the Government starts new construction projects or otherwise directly employs labor and management, it can stimulate business. But the Government can never put in large enough sums to offset the present shrinkage. We should have to learn the technique of lowering prices if the Government poured all its conceivable resources into the market. But we must remember that the Government can raise money only by levying a tax on our true national income. If a depression means that our earning power has gone down, the Government may redistribute a little of the shrunken income, but it can not add to it. John Maynard Keynes and the English economists are right in seeing rising prices as a sign of improvement. They fail to see the reality of the depression phase, which must be dealt with in and of itself. Lower prices are in themselves a device for forcing the lower costs which we need before business health can be restored. There is no one cause for industrial depressions. Our mistakes in foreign policy in recent years, for instance, were far more serious than our mistakes in monetary policy. We shall have to make amends for those errors. But at present we are in the depression phase. ..."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 24.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $65\frac{3}{4}$  to  $67\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 50¢; St. Louis 48 to  $48\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 42 to  $45\frac{1}{2}$  (Nom); No.2 hard winter Chicago  $50\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 37 to 38¢; Kansas City  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to 41¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $39\frac{1}{2}$  to  $41\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to 41¢; St. Louis  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 41 to 42¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $21\frac{3}{4}$  to  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 23  $\frac{3}{8}$  to 23  $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis  $22\frac{3}{4}$  to 23¢; Kansas City  $25\frac{1}{2}$  to  $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

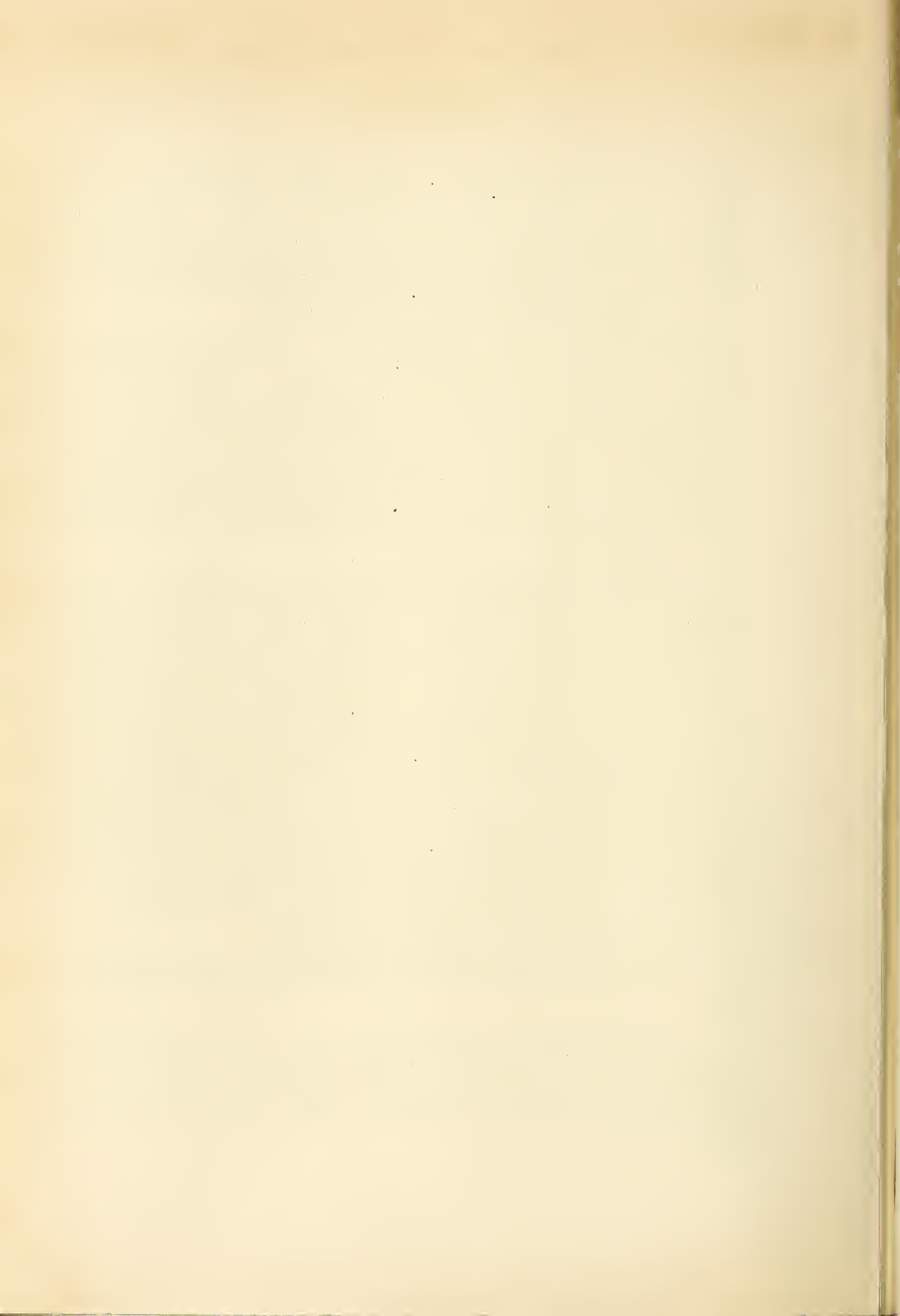
Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$10.25; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.90 to \$5.70; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$5 to \$5.35; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.25 to \$4.90 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$4.25 to \$4.90; slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$5.50 to \$7.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.60.

Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes brought 80¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in city markets; 45¢-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 85¢-95¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts yellow varieties of onions closed at 85¢-\$1.20 per 50-pound sack in eastern cities; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellows 75¢-\$1 in Chicago. New York Concord grapes 25¢-35¢ per 12-quart basket in New York City. Delaware various varieties 27¢-30¢ in New York, and f.o.b. sales at Rochester, New York one car \$37.50 per ton. New York Domestic round type cabbage \$12-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type \$20-\$23 in New York City; \$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.10-\$1.75 per stave barrel in city markets; \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Wealthy apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, brought 85¢-\$1 per bushel basket in New York City; few 80¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York McIntosh \$4 per barrel in New York City.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 19 points to 5.66¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 9.82¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 6.20¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 22 points to 6.16¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 74

Section 1

September 26, 1931.

## THE PRESIDENT ON EXPENSES

A moratorium on demands upon Congress for increased expenditures, at least until times are better, was requested yesterday by President Hoover at his 'semi-weekly press conference, according to the press to-day. He urged emphatically a cessation of the "direct pressures" and "propaganda" which he said are annually loosed upon Congress in behalf of this or that measure, whether meritorious or not. Instead, he said, there should be a subversion of sectional interest to the common good.

## WAGE SCALES

The Associated Press to-day says: "In the face of wage slashes by large steel corporations, the president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., yesterday reaffirmed his position that industry should strive to maintain existing pay levels. Walter S. Gifford now serving as national relief director, reiterated that 'we ought to make every effort to maintain the wage scale.' Shortly afterward it was learned the administration has no intention of reviving the war-time Council of National Defense to rule industry in the present economic depression. The American Legion convention at Detroit urged this step as proposed by Howard Coffin former member of the council. President Hoover feels, however, the Gifford organization is amply able to co-ordinate relief activities without resorting to more drastic measures...."

## IOWA CATTLE TESTING

A Tipton, Iowa, dispatch September 25 says: "Iowa national guardsmen yesterday won their first offensive against farmers who for six months have resisted the State bovine tuberculin test law. There was no physical opposition or demonstration against the testing. Moving at dawn, troopers posted machine guns at strategic Cedar County cross-roads, marked off a 'restricted area' of six square miles embracing farms of seven leaders in the insurrection....After a preliminary skirmish at the farm of J. T. Lenker, the guardsmen were deployed on other farms where testing went forward with dispatch...."

## ITALIAN TARIFF

A Rome dispatch to-day says: "A new superduty of 15 per cent, sharply affecting American exporters, was imposed yesterday by the Italian Government to balance a budget that has been running a deficit of \$14,000,000 monthly, and thereby strengthening the position of the lira... The new superduty, effective yesterday, applied only to a small proportion of Italy's import trade, much of which is covered by 'most-favored-nation' trade treaties. The United States and England, which have no such treaties with Italy, will be most affected by the superduty...."

## COTTON PICKING FOR UNEMPLOYED

A Helena, Ark., dispatch to-day says: "Truck loads of men formerly unemployed left Helena yesterday to pick cotton in Phillips County, Ark., as a consequence of a campaign by authorities to supply planters with laborers through ordering the idle to work or submit to arrest as vagrants. ...."



## Section 2

California  
Farm Cen-  
sus

An editorial in Pacific Rural Press for September 19 says: "In proportion to farms California has a large number of persons gainfully employed in agriculture, and as has been recounted before the highest level of farm wages. A group of the southern cotton States, where one mule, one negro, and one little patch of ground is the rule, can challenge us in the number of males gainfully employed in agriculture as shown by the census, but of the other States we head the list. With 140,000 farms we have 322,000 persons gainfully employed in agriculture. That emphasizes anew our intensive culture of specialty crops. The census lists 534,682 gainfully employed in manufacturing in this State and 401,687 in trade. Obviously many of these are our cannery and dried fruit workers, our meat and fertilizer workers, our millers and spinners, our wool and cotton factors, and that army of middlemen who handle farm products. If they were properly reclassified, agriculture would stand at the head in this census tabulation, even though we did not count the farm women who deserve the 'gainfully employed' title...."

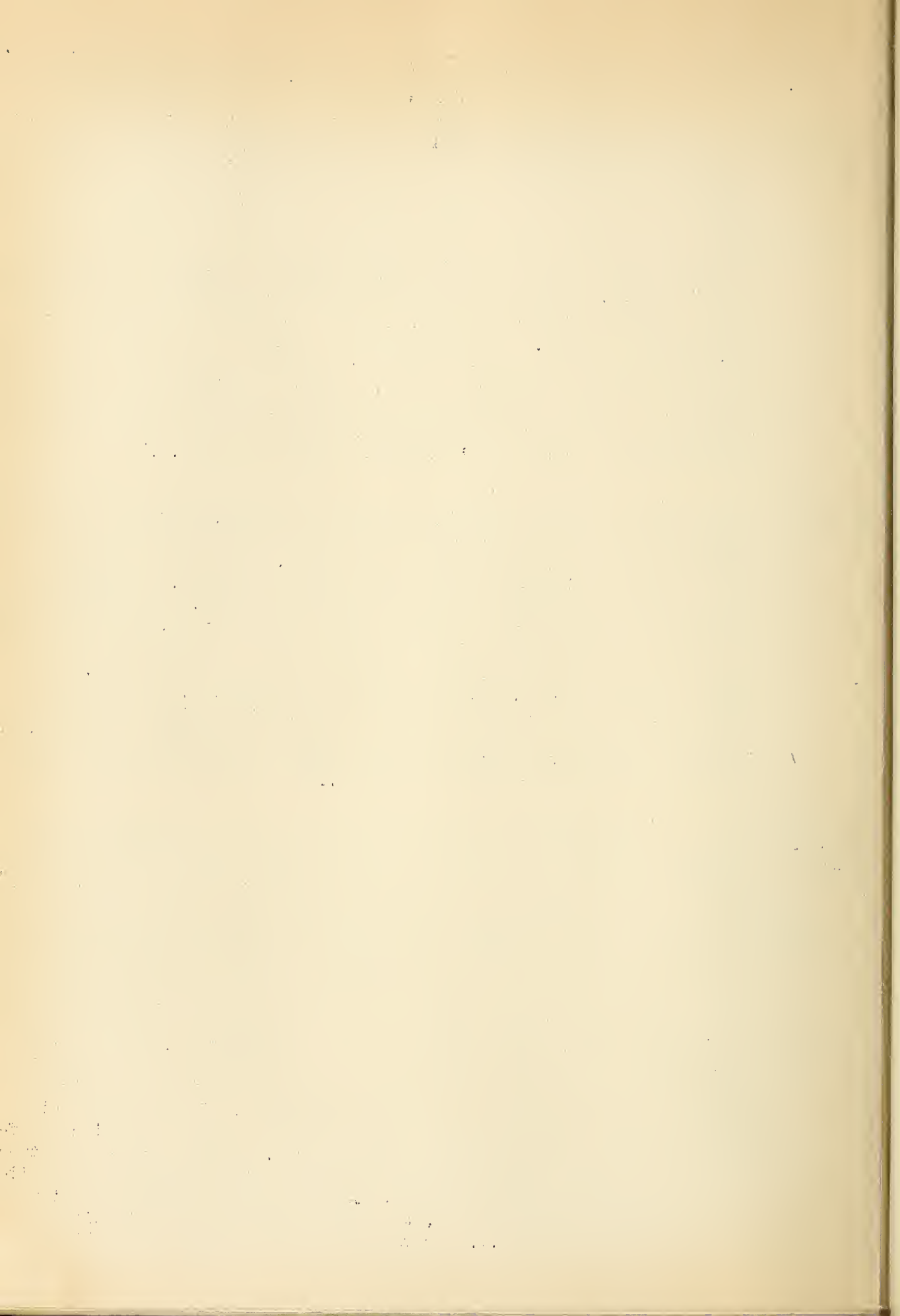
Florida  
Citrus  
Crop

An editorial in The Miami Herald for September 20 says: "Florida's citrus crop this year is estimated as 22,500,000 boxes. This is somewhat smaller than last year and coupled with a higher quality and improved marketing should mean better prices. That is the opinion of C. W. Lyons, president of the Lyons Fertilizer Company, at Tampa, who makes an annual estimate of the production prospects. Grapefruit groves in and around Miami show the trees laden with the fruit, which is rapidly ripening. The Lyons estimate embraces only the commercial crop and does not include the small home groves and the backyard output. The crop is divided into 9,000,000 boxes of grapefruit; 1,000,000 boxes of tangerines, and 12,500,000 boxes of oranges. With fair prices this represents millions of dollars coming back into the State for the great industry, an industry that has every reason to expect increased income and this without Government assistance...."

Guapiles  
Agricul-  
tural  
Colony

"Costa Rica has introduced into the Republic at Guapiles the system of agricultural colonies which has been so successful in many American countries as a means of utilizing great areas of public lands, promoting agriculture and stock raising, and reducing the number of unemployed in the cities. The Guapiles agricultural colony, established by law No.4 of May 20, 1931, will consist of 100 families; each colonist or head of a family will be entitled to a 10-hectare tract of land. The government will defray the transportation and other moving expenses of the colonists and their families and provide for each one a model house whose cost shall not exceed 1,000 colones. After he has been installed in his home, each colonist will be given the necessary tools for the cultivation of the land; during the first six months he and his family will be furnished with such provisions and other articles of prime necessity as may be needed for their subsistence. The colonists will be chosen among poor native-born Costa Ricans, heads of families, preferably farmers, who are under 60 years of age, suffer from no infectious disease, and can produce evidence attesting to their character and fitness for the work to be undertaken. After working at least 3 hectares uninterruptedly for five years, the concessionaire may claim title to the land allotted to him....A rural savings bank will be established







in the colony by the International Bank, which will advance to the colonists the necessary funds for their work, and will loan money on machinery or crops, subject to the approval of the director of the colony." (La Gaceta, San Jose, May 23.)

Livestock  
Breeding

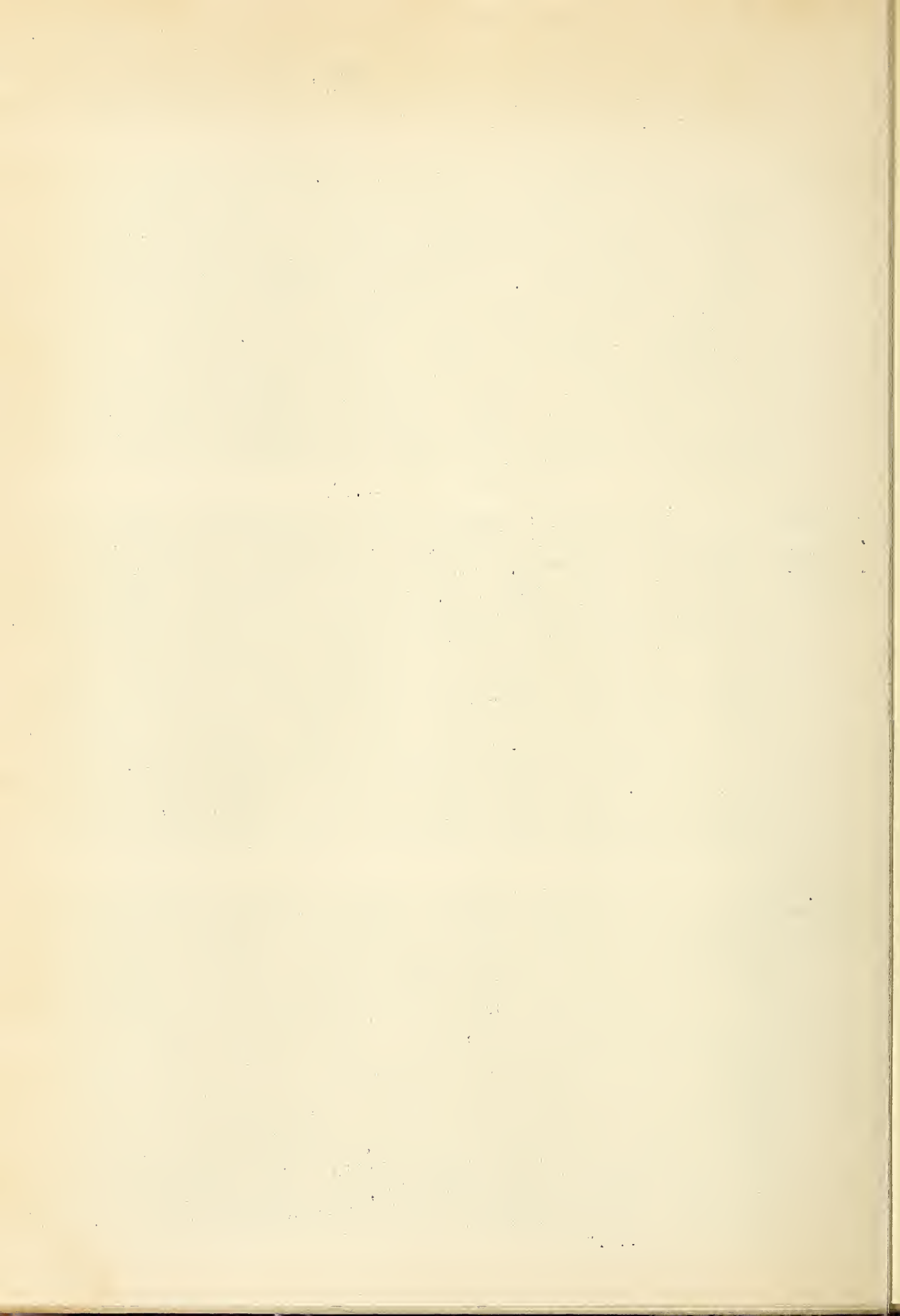
An editorial in The Farmer for September 19 says: "The exhibits of purebred livestock at the State fairs this fall have been most surprising both as regards quality and quantity. This surprise is occasioned because record-breaking exhibits could hardly be expected in a time of depression and following several years of dull demand for superior breeding stock. The breeders of purebred livestock have always furnished a superior type of leadership in rural affairs and their courageous faith in the future of agriculture at this time is particularly inspiring. Anyone who judged the status of agriculture by the purebred livestock shows this fall would never suspect that an agricultural depression exists. We sometimes wonder if farmers properly appreciate the service that the breeders of purebred livestock render to agriculture....Unless farmers show a greater appreciation of the real value of pure blood in livestock, the time may come when there will be a very disturbing lack of foundation stock...."

Minnesota  
Wool  
Growers'  
Associa-  
tion

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 19 says: "Eight years ago the Minnesota Wool Growers' Association had 225 members and owed considerable money. To-day the association has 4,000 members and is debt free, being owned lock, stock and barrel by its farmer members. A great many unsympathetic citizens are in the habit of talking about the subsidized farmer cooperative associations. They leave the impression that these associations are Government supported and not farmer owned. The intention and aim of the marketing act is to bring about organizations among farmers owned and controlled by those who produce. The Farm Board has loaned many of them money. This money is to be returned to the Government, and in many cases--in fact, in most cases, the cooperatives have kept up their interest payments and have also reduced the original debt. Eventually the Government will entirely withdraw from the scene and the farmers will be entirely free to conduct their own business without suggestions from the Government or other outside interests."

Science and  
Adminis-  
tration

An editorial in Nature (London) for August 15 says: "Frequent reference has been made in these columns to the relative positions of administrative officers and of scientific and technical officers in the service of the State. As we remarked when discussing the report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service (Nature, Aug. 8.), proficiency in science whether pure or applied is regarded almost as a disqualification for a high administrative post, the suggestion being that knowledge of a particular branch of science makes a man biased in favor of that branch. The corollary of this proposition is that the best administrator is one who has no scientific knowledge at all, even though every day he has before him problems which can only be understood and solved with the aid of science. It is not strange that this paradoxical condition of things should have resulted in much dissatisfaction among scientific and technical officers in Government service, both in Great Britain and overseas. They find themselves frequently in distinctly inferior positions in comparison with those occupied by men who graduated in literary or historical subjects...."



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLII, No. 75

Section 1

September 28, 1931.

## WHEAT SALE TO CHINA

The terms of the sale of 15,000,000 bushels of wheat to China were formally announced on Saturday by the Federal Farm Board, according to the press of September 27. Final negotiations with the Nanking government were completed on Friday. The report says: "The wheat, No. 2 Western white, will be delivered on the following schedule; 90,000 tons during the remainder of this month and October; 75,000 tons monthly from November to February, and 60,000 in March. The price for each shipment will be the current market price on day of issue of ocean bills of lading. Payments will be in the form of Chinese government obligations payable in United States gold dollars. The obligations will bear 4 per cent interest, maturing in 1934, 1935 and 1936. American vessels will carry the cereal, which must be used exclusively for relief of flood victims, unless foreign ships offer more attractive terms."

## IOWA CATTLE TESTING

A Tipton, Iowa, dispatch September 27 says: "Veterinarians, under the protecting rifles of State militiamen, continued Saturday the work of testing cattle for tuberculosis without any show of physical opposition on the part of hostile farmers. About 108 herds were tested in the county to-day, and 400 herds remained to be inspected. Apparently reassured by the passivity of the farmers, officials ordered demobilization of nine companies of guardsmen. About 1,000 troops will remain on duty, however, until the testing is completed."

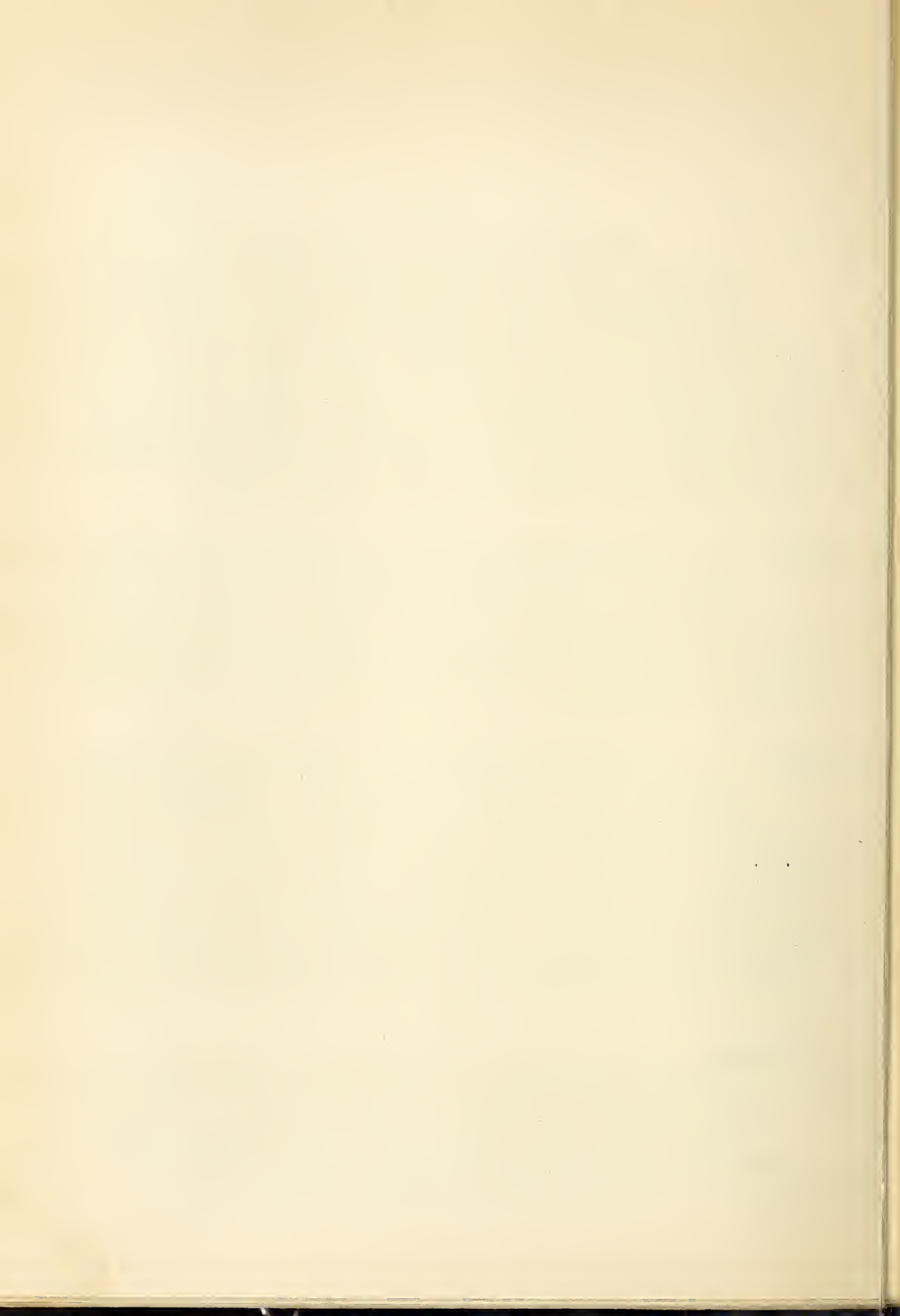
## GIFFORD ON UNEMPLOYMENT

Immediate State and local organization to handle the unemployment situation was urged last night by Walter S. Gifford, chairman of the President's organization on unemployment relief, in his first "get ready" speech in anticipation of the five-weeks' drive for relief funds, according to the press to-day. Gifford recommended: "1. That a state-wide committee of leading citizens be appointed by the governor of each State. 2. That an emergency committee be organized in every community where there is an unemployment problem. 3. That this local committee inform itself as to the probable unemployment load this winter and develop ways and means for meeting it through providing employment or relief. 4. That each local committee inform its State committee as to its organization and plans." An important point in Gifford's speech was his argument that the public must itself provide work as well as charity relief.

## SWEDEN AND NORWAY OFF GOLD STANDARD

A Copenhagen dispatch to-day states that Sweden and Norway both went off the gold standard yesterday. The report says: "Following extraordinary sessions of the State Councils in Stockholm and Oslo, official statements were issued suspending gold payments and prohibiting further exports of gold. The financial authorities of Denmark, which is already off the gold standard, will meet to-day to take new decisions as a result of the events in the neighboring countries."







## Section 2

Agricultural  
Program  
for South

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 19 says: "The South needs a long time agricultural program. This program should include soil selection, soil conservation, moisture conservation; reforestation and a development of a livestock industry fitted to the conditions found in the different areas and sections of the Southern States. We need a program that will provide food for the farmer and his family and feed for his livestock; we need an improved land tenure system which will develop a closer and, therefore, a more profitable working relationship between the owner of the farm who lives in town and the man who cultivates the land. We need an organized industry powerful enough to remove the political handicaps, such as an unequal distribution of tariff benefits, unfair taxation, high cost transportation and high cost financing. Economically speaking, we are living in a changed world. We must revise our methods to meet new conditions. Those who look back to 1920 as a normal year and expect that through artificial stimulation, business can be brought back to that level in a short period or a few months, are doomed to disappointment. Nineteen hundred and twenty was an abnormal year. We should forget 1920 and work toward equalizing commodity costs with agricultural values. The South may not expect to successfully build industry at the expense of agriculture. The two must be developed together."

Australian  
Fauna

An editorial in Nature (London) for September 12 says: "The conditions which made for the evolution of the fauna of Australia along its unique path, the isolation of the continent associated with the early influx of primitive groups of animals, are now hastening that peculiar fauna towards its doom. Uniqueness has its own attractions, and there can be no replenishment of the disappearing forms from the outside world. There can be no doubt on the question of the disappearance of Australian birds and mammals. Sir James Barrett expresses the general opinion in Australia when he says: 'The answer is unequivocal. Except in certain places where enlightened citizens have protected them, they are all disappearing. It is difficult for anyone to show a visitor in the State of Victoria the larger marsupials or the lyre birds. It is quite impossible to find the smaller marsupials except in a few favored places and with great trouble. It is, indeed, feared that some varieties have been exterminated.'...It is a rule in the decline of a fauna that when agriculture and commercial slaughter have reduced numbers to rarity, new forces step in to complete the destruction. The rare animal becomes desirable, scientifically and commercially, and collectors, animated by one enthusiasm or the other, rush to secure the last of the specimens. In the British Isles with their limited fauna this tendency has been particularly forced upon the notice of naturalists. A few years ago, the once common kite, in spite of strenuous protection, was reduced to some five breeding pairs on the borders of Wales; the great skua and the St. Kilda wren were brought to the verge of extinction, the osprey was exterminated, all through the activities of collectors. In Australia the same forces have taken a hand in the threatening final stages...."

## Conservation

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 19 says:  
"Scarcely above the din comes a wee small voice crying in the wilderness



for light, reason, a thought of the future--conservation. These people who have a thought for the present as well as the future say that the Government should cease spending money to promote overproduction on lands not needed or suited to production, and should take out of production the marginal lands that now account for the most of the surplus. In the last analysis there is no other answer to our national agricultural problem unless we are willing to wait and suffer, for no one knows how long. We have not fathomed the possibilities of production in our farm factory. Perhaps fourth of the land now under plow could be turned to trees or grass and we still could meet every domestic need for food, or clothing. But it is not necessary to go that far in the beginning; the Federal Government cooperating with the States and counties could accomplish wonders with much less appropriations for conservation than were made for bringing marginal, or unneeded lands into production...."

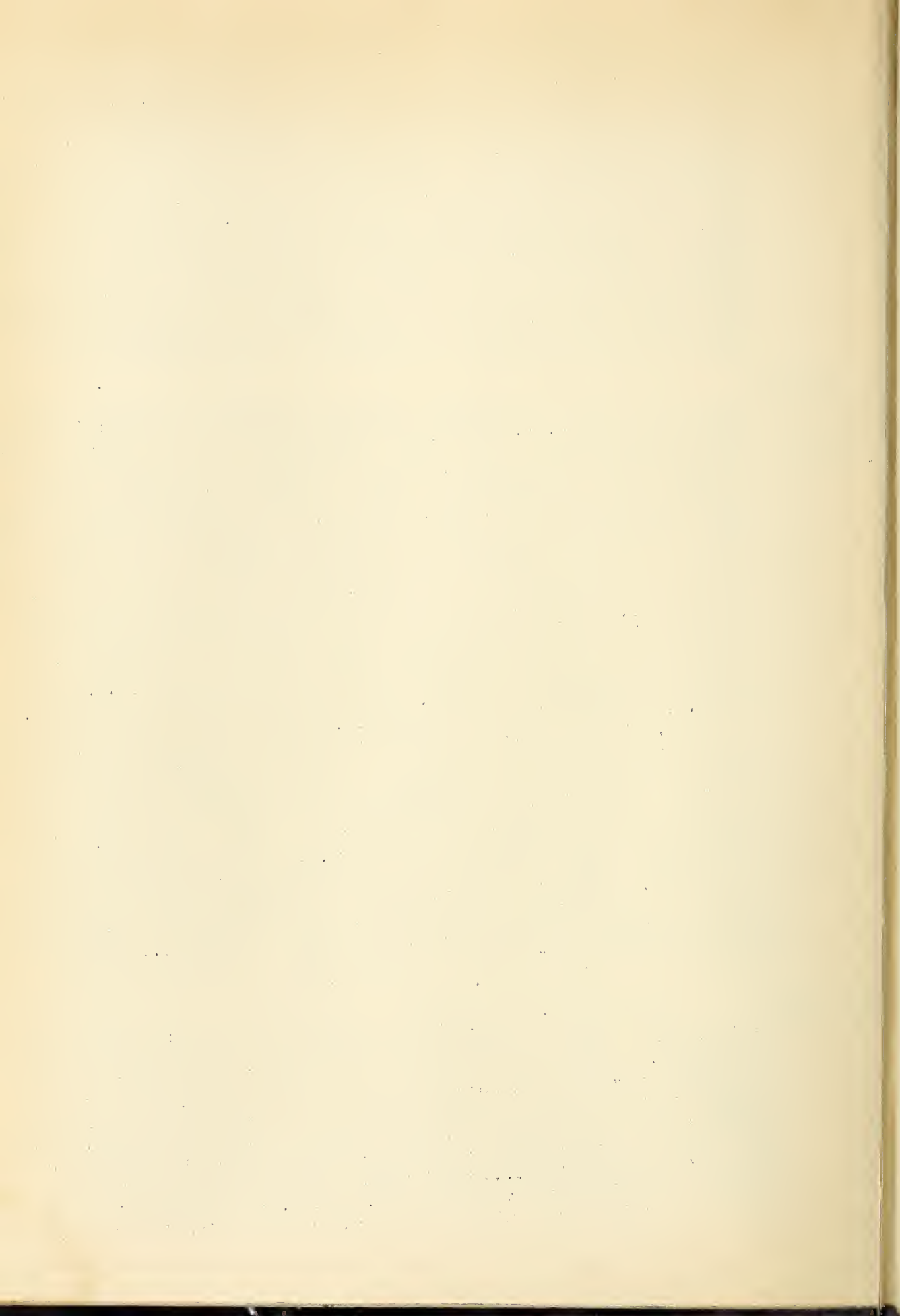
Cotton Sug-  
gestion  
From  
Alabama

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 19 says: "About fifteen years ago J. F. Duggar, research professor of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, evolved a plan to exterminate the boll weevil in the cotton-growing States. The time did not appear to be propitious for its publication. It appeared in print in 1925 in a pamphlet entitled, 'Duggar's Southern Field Crops.' It received but little publicity otherwise. The Duggar plan is again brought to the attention of those interested in finding a solution for the 'cotton problems' of the South. This time it is presented as a doubled-edged weapon, not only effective against the boll weevil, but the surplus acreage. Briefly stated, it is as follows: Divide the cotton belt into five or more zones, each zone overlapping the adjacent zone for fifty or 100 miles. Beginning with zone No.1, cotton will be prohibited the first year. Zone No.2, including its overlap on zone No.1, will take a holiday the second year. Zone No.3, including its overlap on No.2, will not plant cotton the third year. This process to proceed from year to year until every zone in the belt has had a full year of no cotton, the overlaps having two years of cotton holiday. The Duggar plan further suggests that each bale of cotton produced in the legalized zones be assessed a certain sum to be used in compensating cotton farmers in the nonproducing zone, this compensation being based on the difference, if any, between what cotton would have brought the farmer and the value of the crops produced in lieu thereof. While the author of the plan believes that it would be carried out voluntarily by most farmers, he suggests that legislation by the various States will be necessary to make it effective....According to Professor Duggar, the zoning plan would serve the purpose of cutting acreage and advancing prices, and also starve out the boll weevil."

Land Values

An editorial in The Farmer for September 19 says: "The market for farm land seems to be gradually improving if we are to believe current reports. This is important if true because the stabilization of land values at some point, however low that point may be, has a direct influence on the return of normal times so far as agriculture is concerned. Land is the most important collateral in the agricultural West and has had no fixed value for some years past, thus seriously impairing the credit of agriculture....Two factors are apparently operating to improve and stabilize the value of land. First, the holders of mortgages are becoming more lenient and in most cases are inclined to give







farmers every opportunity to prevent foreclosure. As a consequence, the percentage of foreclosures has apparently not increased as rapidly as business conditions might have justified....The second factor in stabilizing land values is an increasing demand for bargains in farms. Some of the prices received are ridiculously low, representing a real loss to the seller. Others are bringing just about the amount of the mortgage plus carrying charges....In our estimation, land values would continue to improve and at an accelerated rate if we could only get some relief from the huge burden of taxes...."

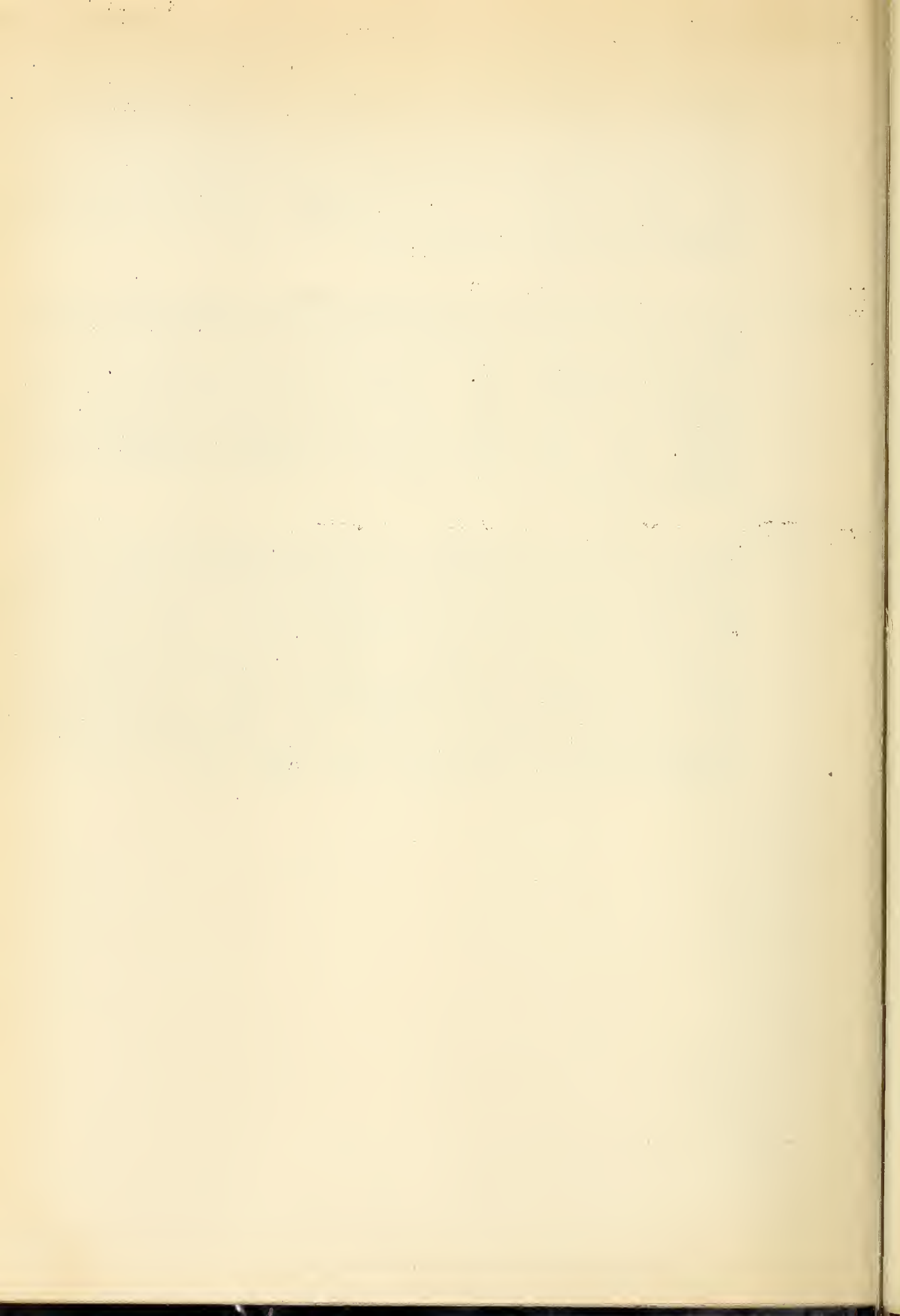
Livestock  
Trend

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 19 says: "First reaction was amazement that the livestock barns at the State Fair this year were filled as they had not been in years. This has not been a good year for fitting show herds--too hot and dry. In spite of this the exhibits came. On second thought we reason why. Cheap grain turns the trend from field crops to livestock husbandry. It is a healthy sign. None better. Let other States raise grain and hay for export. If we raise enough to feed our livestock, Nebraska will be rolling in wealth in years ahead while other regions are still calling for farm relief."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for September 26 says: "Business in the wool markets of this country has been more or less suspended during the past week in consequence of the departure of England from a gold basis and the subsequent decline of the pound sterling. The effect abroad has been for commodity values to rise, more or less in offset to the depreciation in sterling, although sterling has gone down rather faster than wool has gone up. Here there has been a disposition on the part of the manufacturers to await the outcome and to see where the pound was likely to settle before making any further commitments of moment, although the goods market appears healthy and the statistical position of wool here is sound enough. It is a buyers' market, although prices have not declined appreciably...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 25.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $64\frac{1}{4}$  to  $68\frac{1}{4}$ ; No.2 red winter Chicago  $48\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Louis  $47\frac{1}{2}$  to  $48$ ; Kansas City  $44$ ; No.2 hard winter Kansas City  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to  $41\frac{3}{4}$ ; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $40\frac{1}{2}$ ; Minneapolis  $38$  to  $39$ ; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $40\frac{1}{2}$ ; Minneapolis  $41\frac{1}{2}$  to  $42$ ; St. Louis  $41\frac{1}{2}$ ; Kansas City  $41$  to  $42$ ; No.3 white oats Chicago  $21$  to  $23\frac{1}{2}$ ; Minneapolis  $23\frac{1}{8}$  to  $24\frac{1}{8}$ ; St. Louis  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Kansas City  $25\frac{1}{2}$  to  $26$  (Nom.).

Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$10.25; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.75 to \$5.50; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.85 to \$5.20; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.15 to \$4.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lb. down) \$5.75 to \$7.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$4 to \$5.60.

Maine sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 80¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in city markets; 45¢-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢-65¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.50-\$1.60 in Chicago; 60¢-70¢ f.o.b. Idaho Falls. New York Domestic round type cabbage brought \$14-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$7-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Northern Round and Danish type \$25-\$30 in St. Louis. New York Concord grapes 40¢-50¢ per 12-quart basket in New York City; \$25 per ton f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Concords 25¢-50¢ in the Middle West. New York and Massachusetts yellow onions 85¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in the East; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern stock 75¢-\$1 in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$2 per stave barrel in city markets; \$1.25 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Tennessee Nancy Halls 75¢-85¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Wealthy apples \$1-\$1.25 per bushel basket. No.1,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, in New York City; one car 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Wealthys 90¢ and Maiden Blush and Grimes 65¢-85¢ in Chicago.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 7 points to 5.59¢ per lb. On the corresponding day last year the price was 9.66¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 6.14¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 6.08¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLII, No. 76

Section 1

September 29, 1931.

## EMPLOYMENT

A decrease of 0.3 per cent in employment from July to August and of 1.1 per cent in earnings is reported by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, based on returns from 46,917 establishments in fifteen major industrial groups having in August 4,583,275 employees with combined earnings in one week of \$105,527,491.

## GIFFORD APPOINTS

### PUBLIC WORKS LEADERS

Walter S. Gifford, director of the President's organization of unemployment relief, yesterday selected twelve members of the advisory committee for the purpose of determining whether further Federal public works might be undertaken to provide work for the idle. James R. Garfield, of Cleveland, former Secretary of the Interior, was named chairman. (Press, Sept. 29.)

## ARKANSAS UN- EMPLOYMENT

A Helena, Ark., dispatch to-day says: "Cool weather, rather than the threat of jail sentences, yesterday was credited with having produced a change in heart among unemployed loiterers, who promised to go voluntarily into the fields to-day as cotton pickers. Officers inaugurated a drive several days ago to force loiterers into the fields because of a shortage of labor...."

## FRENCH AND GERMAN CO- OPERATION

A Berlin dispatch to-day says: "Premier Laval of France and Chancellor Brüning of Germany yesterday pledged their respective countries to active cooperation in finance, industry, commerce, shipping and aviation as the essential prelude to the ultimate realization of a permanent betterment of Franco-German relations..."

## DENMARK TO DROP GOLD BASIS

A Copenhagen dispatch to-day states that the Danish government last night officially confirmed reports that a measure suspending the gold standard until November 30 will be introduced in Parliament to-day.

## RUBBER PRO- DUCTION

The New York Times for September 26 says: "Interest in a world consortium for the curtailment of rubber production has dwindled, after having been agitated almost continuously for four years, because it has become apparent that the present low price of the commodity is accomplishing a severer curtailment than could have been achieved by an agreement, according to advices from Europe which have been received by rubber brokerage houses here. The present price of crude rubber, approximately 5 cents a pound, is the lowest on record and so far below the cost of production for numerous plantations that it is expected that cultivation of the commodity will be abandoned by more than enough growers to bring supply down to the demand level..."



## Section 2

British  
Gold  
Standard  
Suspension

An editorial in Barron's for September 28 says: "...Great Britain's suspension of gold payment is the latest and most striking of a succession of steps each of which has, in turn, been hailed as finally averting some vague dreadfulness commonly referred to as 'the crisis.' Granting that Parliament acted wisely in protecting the country's remaining gold stock from further depletion, to which it would unquestionably have been subjected if London had continued to act as banker for the Continent and to facilitate the withdrawal of foreign capital from Central Europe, the question arises whether even this extreme stop finally settles anything. Certainly it does not materially alter the fact that Germany and Austria have overborrowed on a much higher commodity price level or the fact that Germany can no longer borrow abroad the means of meeting her reparation obligations....London opinion is practically unanimous in believing that suspension of gold payment and depreciation of the pound favor the export industries and home agriculture. If it stimulates trade and raises the commodity price level, it will shift more of the burden of taxation to the shoulders of recipients of fixed incomes and relatively lighten it for the bulk of the population. All these changes may help to solve the budget problem, and if Treasury receipts and expenditures are balanced in fact, a great deal will have been accomplished. Yet it is hard to shake off the impression that so far the suspended interchangeability of sterling bills with gold is but another shift of expediency."

Corporation  
Farming

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 26 says: "An Iowa lawyer is very much alarmed concerning the future of the Middle West because of having read an article in The Forum, by Walter B. Pitkin, entitled, 'The Great Dirt Conspiracy.' In this article, Mr. Pitkin....says that there is a conspiracy to preserve the ancient American farm system against the ravages of the industrial revolution which is symbolized by 50-cent wheat....Pitkin knows just enough about wheat corporations in Texas and Kansas to be absolutely sure that the efficient farm of the future must be at least 10,000 acres in size. He thinks the tractor now used by the ordinary farmer is altogether too small....The Collins Farm Company, at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which has made the most definite attempt at large-scale farming in Iowa, does not believe that Mr. Pitkin's analysis is sound. It believes that it has discovered a number of new farm practices of great value to Iowa farmers, and expects the family-sized farmers to gradually put themselves in position to take advantage of these discoveries. Several farm corporations may develop in the Corn Belt, but they will probably never produce more than a small fraction as much as the family-sized farmers. The corporation farmers may lead the way in many types of scientific agriculture, but the more wide-awake family-sized farmers will copy their methods as fast as they are demonstrated to be sound. There are many handicaps to a large organization, and, while on a strictly grain farm, these handicaps are not so very serious, yet they are great enough to cause Wall Street to think several times before sinking several billion dollars in corporation farms, as Mr. Pitkin suggests. The greatest difficulty is due to the fact that in time of trouble the family-sized farmer will work himself and family long hours for practically nothing, and will lower his standard of living. This makes mighty stiff





competition for a corporation farm to buck, which has to pay wages day after day, and thus run the risk of going into bankruptcy in times of depression and crop failure. We are convinced that American farmers in the next thirty years are going to be able to produce just as cheaply and efficiently as Russian or Argentine farmers....We will change just as fast to adopt new machinery and new methods as the farmers in other countries. Great changes are coming, but they are going to affect the cities as well as the farms...."

#### Cotton Uses

An editorial in Commercial West for September 19 says: "Numerous ideas have been suggested for the employment of cotton since the slump in prices caused by the shadow of the Farm Board surplus of some 1,300,000 bales, but the most practical appear to be its use for business and advertising letterheads. First introduced as a novelty cotton cloth letterheads have 'caught on' in the East and South and in a short time have accounted for the use of more than 3,000,000 yards of cotton cloth. A 500-pound bale of cotton will produce about 40,000 letterheads of ordinary size. Cotton memo cards have been adopted by southern railways and it has been found that posters can be printed on them and applied to billboards that will withstand the elements and last for months...."

#### Farm Accounting

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for September 18 says: "An all day meeting of 1,400 active farmers in Bloomington in the oppressive heat of Tuesday marks high interest. This was not a picnic nor a plowing match, but an indoor study of charts and summaries and lessons from the accounts of 380 farms represented in the audience. Visitors were present from several other counties and other States. These included two from the United States Department of Agriculture who said that the group of farmers here had done more than any others in the United States to make definite records of their business and find what practices gave the most profit. Only by a comparison of a great number of such records could scientific guidance be given for individuals to revise and balance their plans for higher results in the future, they said. These authorities thought it very significant that our farmers were helping themselves by finding the facts and better ways of their own business and working out their own salvation by revising their plans in the light of these records for several years, instead of looking for outside aid. The enthusiasm of these 400 farmers intent on improving their methods for higher profit in this time of depression brought out many compliments from visitors. Central Illinois has scored again in being outstandingly acknowledged as the leader of the whole country in this economic project for improvement...."

#### Intermediate Credit Bank

A Louisville, Ky., dispatch September 28 states that A. G. Brown, president of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Louisville, said that there has been a general increase in the use of intermediate credit not only in the territory covered by this bank--Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee--but generally throughout the United States. In support of his statement, he pointed to the fact that during the first seven months of this year 421 institutions discounted farmers' notes with the 12 Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, whereas during a similar period in 1930 only 277 used the facilities of these banks in this manner. The amount discounted during the first seven months of this year was about \$71,000,000 compared with \$58,000,000 for a similar period last year.



Production  
and Prices

An editorial in The Scottish Farmer for September 12 says: "... Until recent years the main aim of all farmers was to increase production. The man who grew two blades of grass where only there had been one is eulogized still as the benefactor. The great strides in agricultural education, the fight to counteract animal and plant diseases, the experimentation with manures and seeds, the research stations and the agricultural lecturers, all were designed to eliminate checks on production. Till now we have arrived at the paradoxical situation that we have plenty and poverty. The wheat silos of America and Canada are full; cotton is in excess of requirements, and rubber is at its lowest ebb, while millions are starving in China.... The aim has always been production, and then more production. But there is a law of diminishing returns which can not be evaded. There comes a point when extra expenditure does not result in commensurate returns, and the reflection which arises after passing through a countryside blessed with a bountiful harvest and good weather to secure it, is that production can now look after itself and that concentration on the other sides of the farmer's activities now assumes an importance which deserves serious consideration. A few far-sighted individuals have perceived this fact for years, and these pioneers have been moderately successful in exploring new approaches to the problem. Large manufacturers producing standard articles for consumption have for long realized that production at any cost is not the criterion of success, but production at a profit. Costs are rigorously examined by trained staffs and invention is continually stimulated. Ford says in his latest work that hard times are more productive in labor-helping devices than are the days of prosperity. The farmer, a small individual unit, has not the advantages of the large manufacturer who purchases his raw materials wholesale. The farmer buys retail and sells wholesale, and this largely through his own apathy. The remedy lies in his own hands. But apart from purchasing raw materials and marketing the products, which both clamor for cooperative methods, good prices in this era of plenty can only be had by examining all costs. It may mean, as it is proving, a relegation of a considerable area to grass, a reduction in retail milk production and a commensurate increase in stock rearing, an increase or decrease in pigs as prices dictate, and almost certainly an increase in poultry. Each case calls for separate analysis, and it is the need of the moment. There is no case, as yet, to limit production, but there is certainly room for more economical methods."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 28.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $63\frac{3}{4}$  to  $67\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 49¢; Kansas City 43¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago  $49\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to 41¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 37 to 38¢; Kansas City  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to 41¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $39\frac{1}{2}$  to  $39\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to 41¢; Kansas City  $40\frac{1}{2}$  to  $41\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $21\frac{1}{4}$  to  $22\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 23 to 24¢; Kansas City  $24\frac{1}{2}$  to  $25\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$10.15; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$9.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$5.00 to \$6.75; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.75 to \$5; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.15 to \$4.65 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6 to \$7.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$3.75 to \$5.60.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged 90¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in the East; 45¢-50¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 60¢-65¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts yellow onions brought \$1-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in eastern cities; 75¢-\$1.15 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellows 75¢-\$1 in Chicago. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.35-\$2 per stave barrel in city markets; \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Round type \$28-\$32 in St. Louis; \$10-\$11 f.o.b. Racine. New York McIntosh apples, No.1,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, \$1.50-\$1.75; Wealthys \$1-\$1.25 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Wealthys and Rhode Island Greenings 85¢ f.o.b. Rochester.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  to  $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 10 points to 5.42¢. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 9.41¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 5.95¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 11 points to 5.91¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XLII, No. 77

Section 1

September 30, 1931.

## COTTON ACREAGE

A Jackson, Miss., dispatch to-day states that a bill to limit cotton acreage to 30 per cent of the land in cultivation in 1932 and 1933 was introduced at the extraordinary session of the Mississippi Legislature yesterday, after Governor Bilbo had pleaded for uniting of factions to advance the State economically. The report says: "The reduction measure, introduced simultaneously in the Senate and House by Senator W. B. Roberts and Representative Walter Sillers, both large cotton planters of Rosedale, was virtually the same as that passed recently by the Texas Assembly and signed by Governor Sterling. About the same time, Governor Parnell of Arkansas asked legislators of that State if they would be willing to serve without pay in an extra session to enact cotton relief legislation. The governor let it known definitely that he planned to call the extra session...."

## MAIL RATE

The press to-day says: "Postmaster General Brown will urge in his report to Congress in December that the postage on first-class mail be raised from 2 cents to 2½ or 3 cents in an effort to meet the department's deficit, now nearing \$100,000,000 annually...."

## EMPLOYMENT PLANS

A Chicago dispatch to-day says: "The spreading of employment through reduced working hours or 'other practical methods' was suggested yesterday in the first recommendations submitted to President Hoover's unemployment commission by its sub-committee on employment plans and suggestions. The committee emerged from a mass of hundreds of suggestions and a two-day session with a statement, approved for release by Walter S. Gifford, head of the parent body, in which it made the following recommendations: That all work now available be equitably distributed among those normally employed in each unit of the various industries. That unemployed be given work rather than charity. That careful consideration of public works programs be secured as soon as possible...."

## IMMIGRATION

Efforts to keep out foreigners who might add to the unemployed reduced immigration to only 7 per cent of the monthly quota in July. The figure, announced yesterday at the State Department, sets a new low mark since President Hoover on September 8, 1930, ordered that immigration visas be withheld from applicants unable to prove they would not become public charges. In the first nine months under this policy, visas were granted to only 12 per cent of the total admissible under quotas. The figures covering July, the tenth month, show that of 14,846 immigrants from quota countries who could have been admitted, only 1,060 were given visas. (A.P., Sept. 30.)

## FRANCE PLANS WHEAT IMPORT

A Paris dispatch to-day states that France's wheat yield this year, because of heavy rains and lack of sunshine, will be insufficient for her needs.





## Section 2

Biological  
Research  
Coopera-  
tion

Prof. Treat B. Johnson of Yale University is the author of a paper entitled "The Need of Cooperation in Biological Research" in Science for September 18. In this he says: "...The most outstanding development in the biological sciences, from a biological or a chemical point of view, has been the growth of that field of scientific endeavor that we include to-day under the subdivision 'biochemistry.' It was not, however, until workers in the different biological subdivisions began to realize what chemistry could do to aid in the advancement of the knowledge of their respective subjects that cooperative measures were finally instituted, which led up to the important developments grouped under this new branch of science. That all vital activity is dependent on chemical reactions is a belief which has influenced the growth of organic chemistry for years. Chemists have been interested for a long time in elucidating the chemical mysteries of the living processes of animals and plants....Our ideas have been revolutionized by the new discoveries in biochemistry revealing a more exact understanding of cellular oxidation-reduction changes. This has been the result of three broad chemical influences: (1) A better understanding of the chemical composition of cells and their process of metabolism; (2) an advance in our knowledge of the physical chemistry of organic reactions in heterogeneous systems and the experimental conditions affecting intermolecular transformations; and (3) the discovery of the fundamental laws governing all colloidal and interfacial phenomena..."

Land Bank  
Farm Sales

A Louisville, Ky., dispatch September 29 states that the Federal Land Bank of Louisville not only sold 50 per cent more farms during the first seven months of this year than it did during the same months in 1930, but sales were made upon a more satisfactory basis, according to a statement made by A. G. Brown, president of the bank, to the board of directors at their last monthly meeting. "Most of the sales--178 during the last seven months--have been made upon a down payment of 20 per cent or more of the selling price, and the majority have been to bona fide farmers who will operate the farms purchased," he said. "The bank does not own a large number of foreclosed farms. In fact, they total less than two-thirds of one per cent of the bank's outstanding loans, yet it is making an effort to dispose of them, for it is in the banking business and can not undertake to go into the farming business. Our sales are of large enough volume to indicate clearly that there is a demand for farms at current prices in each of the States in which the bank makes loans--Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee...."

Lecture  
Tours in  
Argentina

"In accordance with a resolution of the Ministry of Agriculture on the dissemination of agricultural information in the most important cereal-producing regions of the Republic, an expert left Rosario in June in a special car provided by the Argentine Central Railway to give a series of lectures on agricultural topics to the farmers of that section. The car has been equipped with illustrative material for the more graphic presentation of the instruction. The topics to be discussed include methods for fighting diseases of corn, the use of sterilized wheat and flax seed, the curing of flax seed, and similar subjects." (La Prensa, Buenos Aires, June 9.)



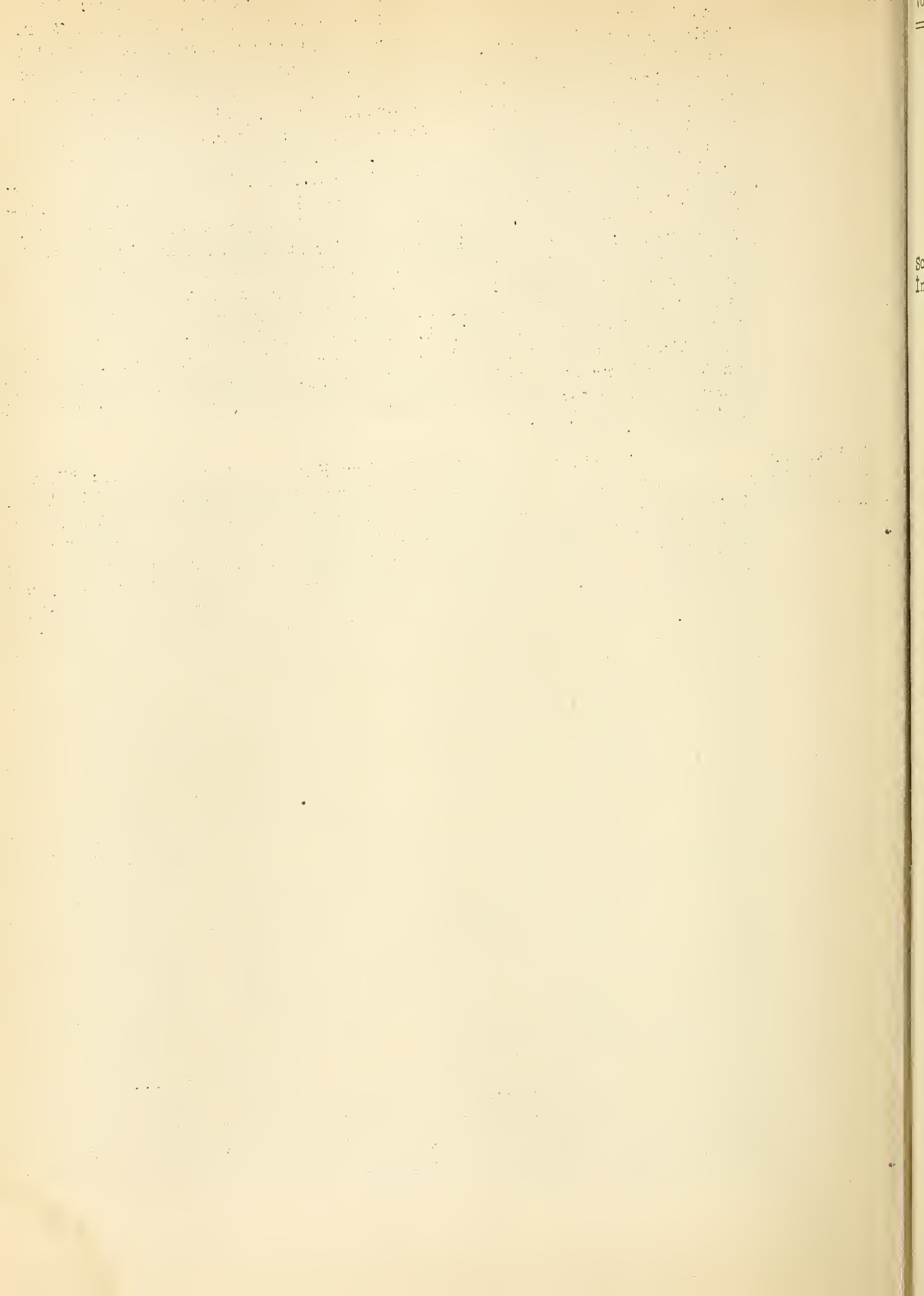
## Milk Value

The Medical Officer (London) for September 12 says: "In his annual report to the Leeds education committee, Dr. Algernon Wear, S.M.O., includes a table showing the average heights and weights of children who have taken milk for six months or more under the committee's scheme. The table shows that at each year of age, from 5 to 12 years, the milk-takers are heavier than the non-milk takers, except the boys of 11 years and the girls of 12 years. It is noticeable that any such advantage is a substantial one varying up to 4.6 lb. At the age of 5 years the milk-taking boys are 2.7 lb. and the girls 2.6 lb. heavier than the non-milk-takers. The greatest difference is at the age of 9 years the milk-takers are 4.4 and 4.6 lb. respectively heavier than the standard. Doctor Wear writes: 'In any consideration of such comparisons it has to be borne in mind that many of those children would not be taking milk unless there was some physical need for it, so that we may assume that a certain number were delicate children. This fact enhances the value of the various differences in weight, and may possibly account for the slight reduction in average weight at the ages of 11 and 12 years, particularly as the numbers available are small at both these ages. The conclusion which may be drawn is that, generally speaking, milk has proved of benefit to the children.'"

Railroads  
and Freight  
Rates

An editorial in The Country Home for October says: "Farmers can not afford to pay higher railroad freight rates at this time. With wheat sold at as little as a quarter a bushel on the farm, the railroad plea for higher rates must be postponed. So far as agriculture is concerned, an increase would be intolerable. The railroads are of course a peculiar business. They are half public and half private and, because of the limitations we have put upon them, they need and get special consideration. A railroad can't be built or abandoned without Government permission. Public interest and not private profit must sanction any new construction....Farmers, in common with all other classes, have a natural and fundamental interest in the prosperity of the railroads. Farmers must have transportation. A crop is worth nothing until it reaches a market. Good transportation is required and farmers know that any kind of valuable service must be paid for. If railroads permanently earned only 2.15 per cent on their property investment they could not continue to render the necessary service....Then, again, the railroads can not afford to charge higher rates on agricultural products if they want to retain the farm business. O. W. Sandberg, speaking for the American Farm Bureau Federation, has pointed out that with the exception of fruits and vegetables the greater portion of the farm crops moves less than three hundred miles. Less than three hundred miles is trucking distance. If the railroads do not want to lose good business they must keep their rates at a point low enough to meet the truck competition. Railroads have many natural advantages. None of these will help much if rates are too high. From the most selfish motive, therefore, the roads should be reluctant to increase farm freight rates. What profit will they get from a higher rate and less volume? Obviously, this is not the time to increase freight rates on farm products....The railroads and those who have invested in railroad securities--this includes everybody with an insurance policy or a savings account--are entitled to just consideration. If with the return to the normal volume of business and all practicable economies of operation, they can not earn a modest return





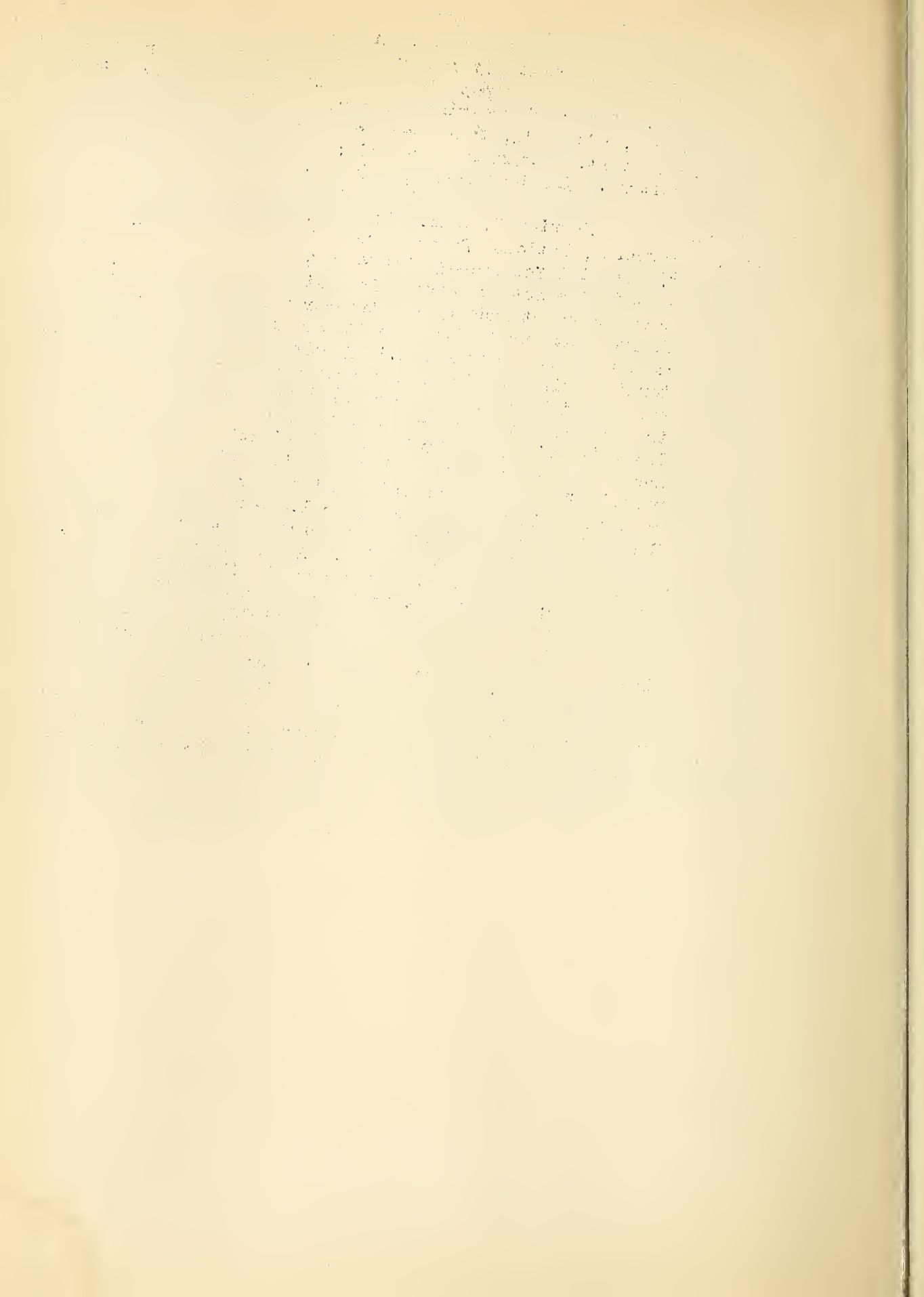


on their money, then ultimately rates may be increased. This should, however, be a last resort. Any rate increase is a disturbing factor and it is especially dangerous now even from the railroad standpoint because of the competition of trucks and waterways. Business is improving. With an industrial recovery more freight cars will be kept busy. Maybe, after all, that 15-per-cent increase won't be needed. But, in any event, this much is certain: the railroads are as well off as agriculture. The load laid on farmers' backs must not now be made heavier."

Science and  
Industry

Maurice Holland, director, division of engineering and industrial research, National Research Council, is the author of a paper entitled "Industrial Science--A Gilt Edge Security" in Science for September 18. In this the author says: "'In a different field of industry consider this statement made by the treasurer of a large textile plant, 'We can figure that our leading profits are from 100 to 200 per cent of the amount spent for research.' Another executive who has apparently determined his profits from research closely (he is vice-president of a rolling mill and steel concern) declared: 'For every dollar spent in true research we have reduced costs and increased net revenue by at least \$100.' A particularly enthusiastic pulp and paper manufacturer has found his research laboratory 'the biggest dividend-paying department.' The average annual premium paid by this representative cross-section of American industry is 1.3 per cent of capital investment. Research appropriations are regarded by these executives as industrial insurance against competition. As an average for all industry, 31 per cent of the investment in research is directed towards reducing production costs; 34 per cent to improving the quality of products in service; and 20 per cent to developing new fields of application; while the balance of 15 per cent is used for developing new materials and products. The principal emphasis of research programs is on developments and improvements that will gradually improve production and increase dividends for the long pull. The public as a whole is the greatest gainer of all. The ultimate dividends of research are passed on to the consumer in reduced costs, improved quality and service and in dividends...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Sept. 29.—Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 62  $\frac{7}{8}$  to 66  $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 47  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 47 to 47  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 42  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 47  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 40 to 41¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 36  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 37  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 40  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 41¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 39 to 39  $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 39  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 40  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 38  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 38  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 41  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 42¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 20  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 21  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 22  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 23  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 21 to 21  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 23 to 24¢ (Nom.)

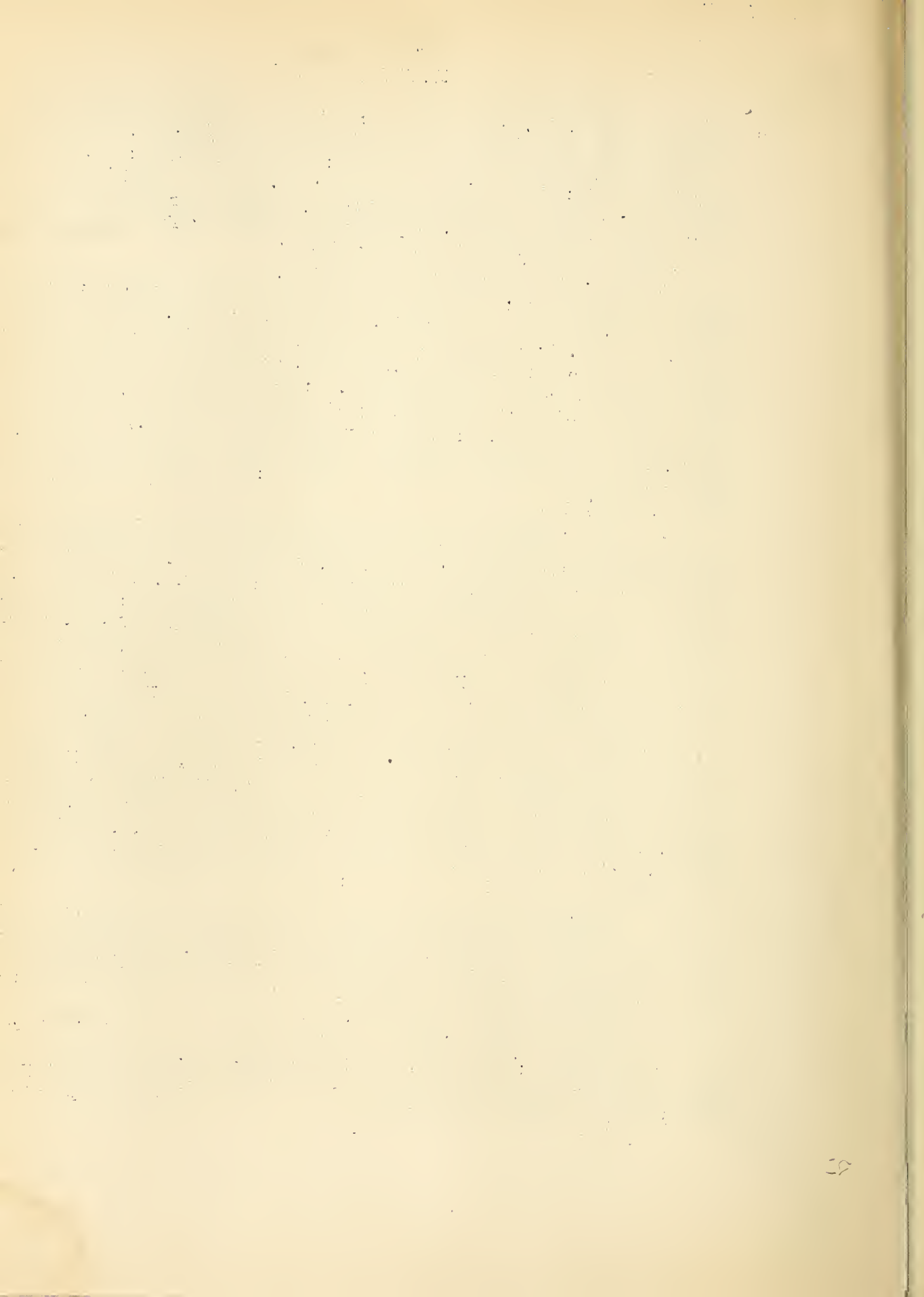
Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$10.15; cows, good and choice \$3.75 to \$5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$9.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$9.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$5 to \$6.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$4.75 to \$5.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$4.60 to \$5.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$4.15 to \$4.65 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$6.25 to \$7.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$3.75 to \$5.50.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes brought 90¢-\$1.20 per 100 pounds in city markets; 45¢ f.o.b. Presque Isle. Long Island sacked Green Mountains 95¢-\$1 in New York City; 75¢ f.o.b. Riverhead. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 80¢-90¢ carlot sales in Chicago; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Massachusetts yellow onions \$1-\$1.30 per 50-pound sacks in eastern cities; 85¢-\$1.05 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellow 75¢-\$1 in Chicago. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$10-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Wisconsin Round and Danish type \$28-\$32 in St. Louis; Danish \$12-\$13 f.o.b. Racine. Virginia Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.35-\$2.25 per stave barrel in city markets; \$1.50 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York Concord grapes 30¢-40¢ per 12-quart climax basket in city markets; \$27.50-\$30 per ton f.o.b. in Rochester. New York Wealthy apples, No.1, 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches up, \$1.25-\$1.37  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25 and McIntosh \$1.50-\$2 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings 85¢ f.o.b. at Rochester.

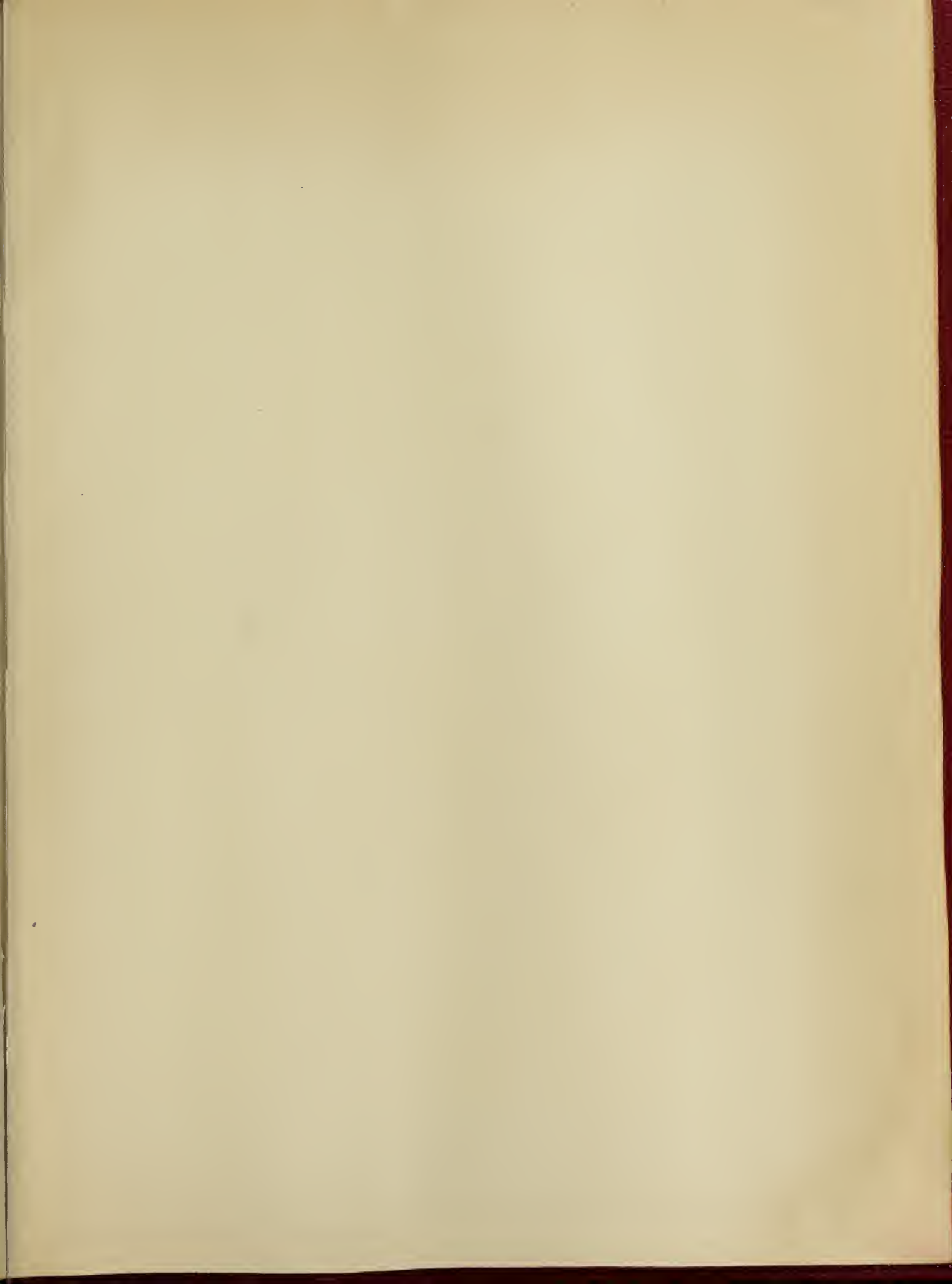
Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 7 points to 5.35¢ per pound. On the same day one year ago the price was 9.56¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 5.85¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 5.88¢.

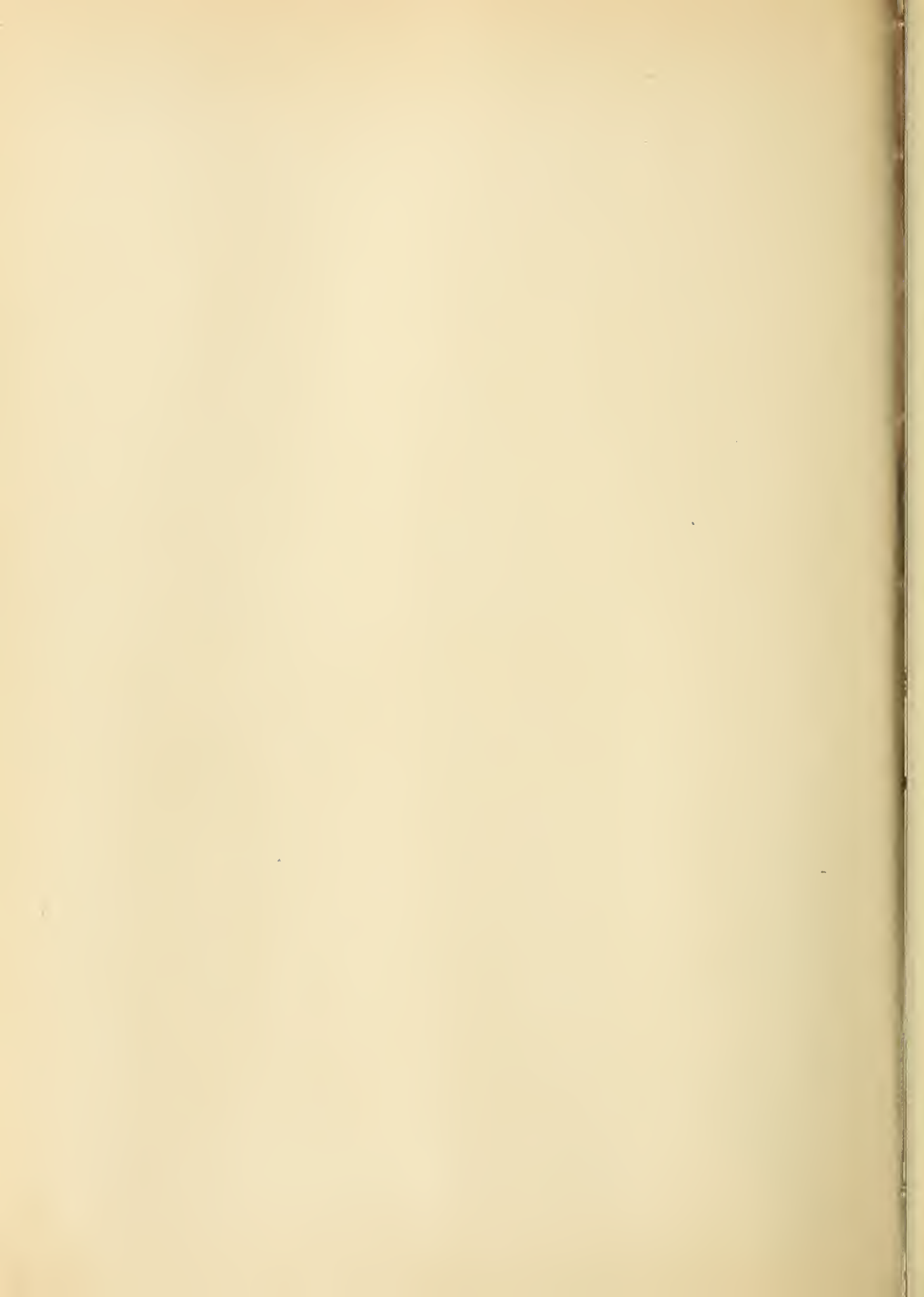
Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 35¢; 91 score, 33  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 30¢.

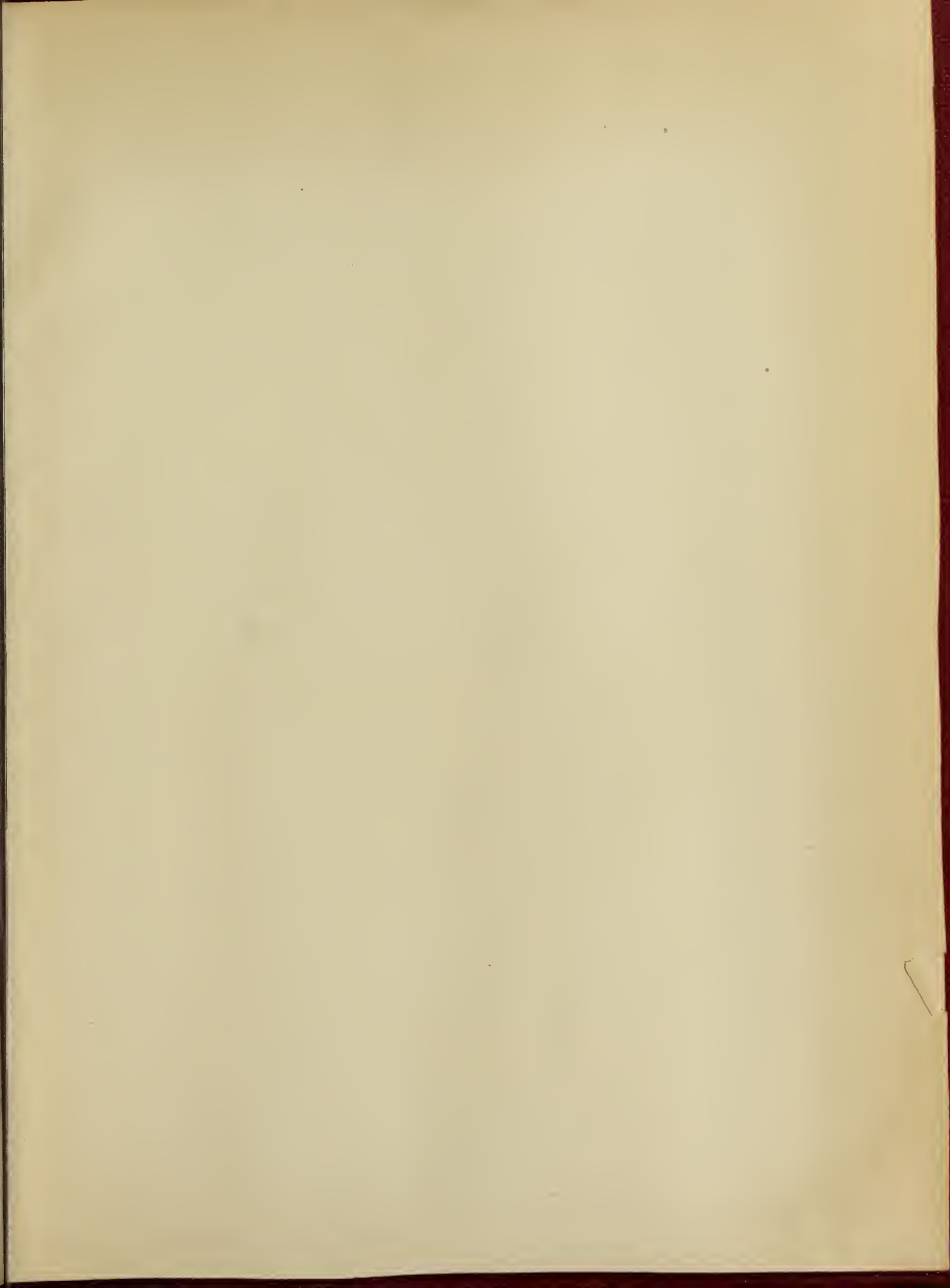
Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17¢; Single Daisies, 16  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 16  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 16  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

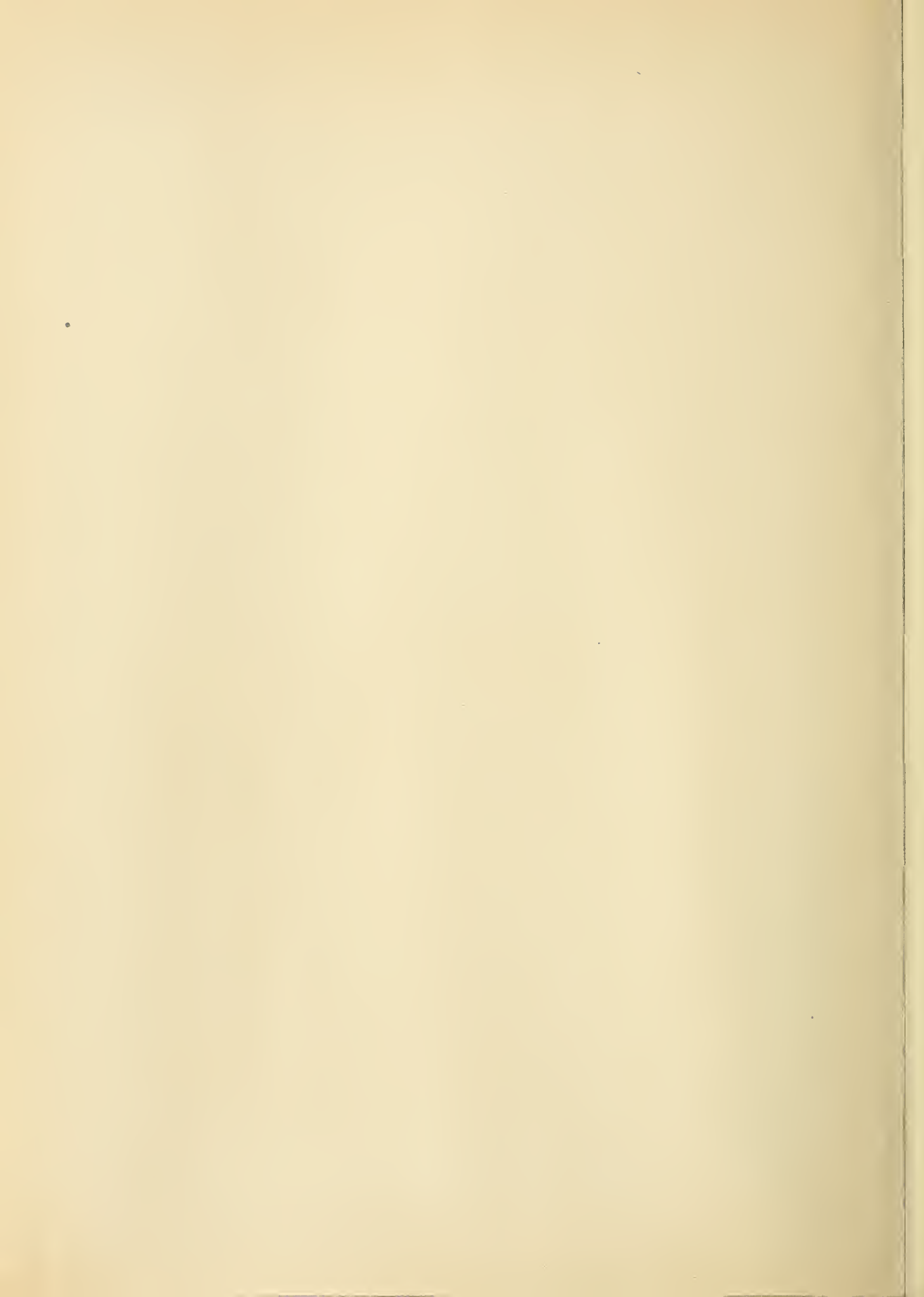




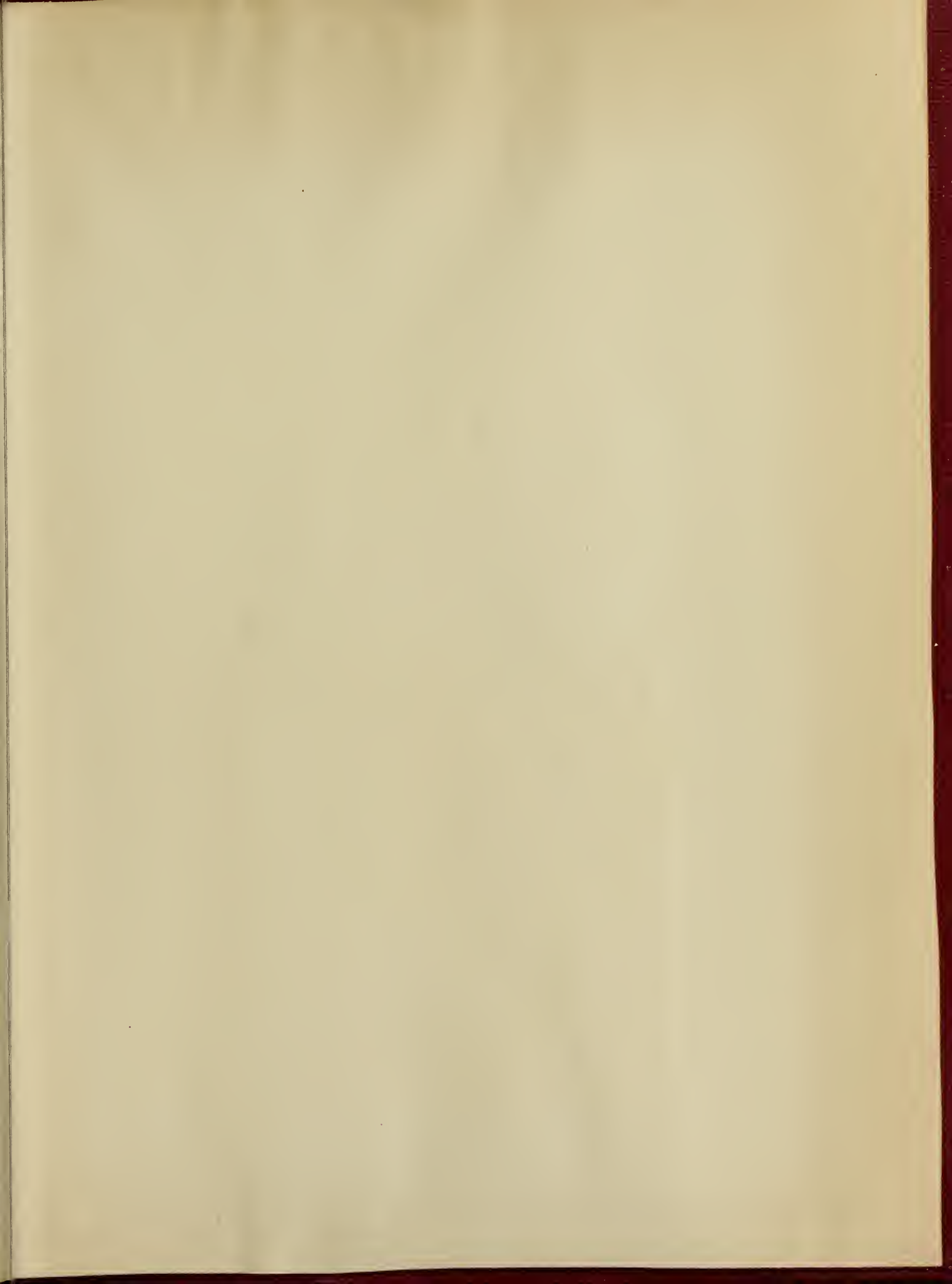














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